

CANADA'S

WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

Maclean's

MAY 6, 1996

“I am opposed
to the GST
and I will
be opposed to
it always.”

*Jean Chrétien,
Oct. 29, 1990*



“If the GST is
not abolished
under a Liberal
government,
I will resign.”

*Sheila Copps,
Oct. 18, 1993*

PROMISES,
The Liberals' GST flip-flop
feeds public cynicism

PROMISES



“We made a
mistake.”

*Paul Martin,
April 23, 1996*

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FEATURES

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THE NEW PATHFINDER



Maclean's

CANADA'S
WEEKLY
NEWSMAGAZINE

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Promises, promises

The Liberal government came under fire for failing to live up to its promises to scrap the GST. Shining the limelight on Prime Minister Jean Chrétien for the government's biggest flip-flop were Deputy Prime Minister Sheila Copps and Finance Minister Paul Martin.



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A U.S.-backed coalition ended 16 days of bombardments across Israel's northern border. But Lebanese were still counting its losses.



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Arnie's back

He may be 66, but golf legend Arnold Palmer still captivates audiences with his voice and style. He has a truly bizarre on-air too—estimated at more than \$270 million.



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The Kidder mystery

Found dead and dismembered in a suburban Los Angeles backyard, Canadian actress Margot Kidder took a sinister turn in full public view.



From The Editor

An old Liberal tradition



Jean Chretien's federal Liberals have passed through one of those dark nights in the life of a government that trusts its soul and sometimes prospects it to destruction. They broke an election promise that they would abolish the Goods and Services tax. The debacle left them with their credibility shattered and having established a new low in the history books under J. for Jap-facts. The brand came amid a barrage of stutters, incomplete sentences and Finance

Minister Paul Martin's admission that the original pledge had been one giant misfire. In the process, the Liberals gave all politicians a bad name and reminded voters that believing in campaign promises, especially theirs, is right up there with the tooth fairy.

The GST betrayal is in the grand tradition of the party's history of expedient switches to gain or stay in power. Will this new work any better than the others? Probably. Voters tend to have short memories. That, presumably, is why the Liberal cynics decided to get the burial of the GST promise out of the way, months before it was to call an election.

But the party's record of breaking such basic tenets for political ends is mixed. They beat the Conservatives in the 1982 election after Lester Pearson's celebrated bluffing on the withdrawal of U.S. nuclear weapons in Canada. At the time, Pierre Trudeau, then a law professor, denounced "the spineless Liberal herd" and chastised Pearson as "the unclouded prince of peace."

Two years later, Trudeau was elected as a Liberal MP. He subsequently campaigned against Robert Stanfield's Tories on the issue of price and wage controls, mocking the Conservative leader in the 1974 campaign with the phrase, "Gee, you're driven." Then,

after the election, Trudeau jugged wages and prices himself. Only after he retired did Trudeau confess: "I paid a heavy price in lost credibility. Until then, I think I was regarded as a straightforward guy who told the truth as he saw it and who wasn't just a devil's politician." In the first election after imposing controls, Trudeau went down to defeat.

What is particularly awkward for Jean Chretien is that he is a self-styled straight shooter who has now bent his words out of shape. And this is the man who ridiculed Tory leader Kim Campbell for saying that an election campaign was not the place to discuss economic policy. The Liberals had all the answers. They would cap the GST, cap the \$4.9-billion purchase of EH-601 military helicopters, and cap the goal to privatize and improve Toronto's Pearson airport. All that, while exposing the party of Brian Mulroney.

It proved too good to be true. The seven-per-cent Goods and Services tax will remain, although hidden in some parts of the country; travellers arriving at Terminal 3 will still have to discover Third World conditions; and the government will be buying helicopters one of these days. Worse,

all citizens will now have to contribute to a \$1-billion food bribery fund being set up to entice three Atlantic provinces into the new blended-tax scheme. The money will allow them to lower their provincial taxes so that the "blended" amount will not exceed 25 per cent. That is one very steep price for a nation to pay. But the ultimate cost may be that Jean Chretien loses his government.

Robert Lewis



Trudeau campaigning in 1974: the price of lost credibility

Newsroom Notes:

Beyond the legend

In tracking down Arnold Palmer for a profile, Senior Writer Dennis Deacon discovered that, neither ago nor an eight-year victory drought has diminished Arnold's appeal (page A8). At a recent tournament in Florida, as Palmer's group was passing a home under



construction, the entire roofing crew yelled: "Go Arnold!" And at 66, Palmer still has his trademark go-for-broke style. On one particularly treacherous hole, when his partner had cautiously let moss off the tee, Palmer chose his driver and unleashed a nearly 300-yard blast that left him only a short pitch from the green. He took his putt for birdie, and his fans roared. "Palmer is one of the few so-called improvisers who seems bigger in real life than he is in legend," says Deacon. "He has qualities that don't go out of style."

Deacon: age has not diminished Arnold's appeal

Club World Fast Track Arrivals Hit the ground running



If you're chasing a deadline you'll appreciate fast-track arrivals at Heathrow and Gatwick airports. You may like to spend your Christmas shopping so that as soon as you land you'll relax off. One of the many benefits you'll find when you fly on new Club World.

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Monarchy debates

I am a proud 17-year-old Canadian. It would sadden me to lose the monarchy in Canada ("The last Queen?" Cover, April 23). Queen Elizabeth II gives us a certain dignity and makes us different from our southern neighbours. Even so, the media make it harder and harder to be proud of the Queen and her family. In a world of change and confusion, it's nice to have someone that represents values, morals and stability, and promotes celebrations of affection, loyalty and pride in one's country and history.

Kathleen Thériault-McPherson,
Vancouver, Ont.

Word of state is not one of our own, he is, also, correct. The Queen is not herself a Canadian and her likely successors are no less foreign. If the monarchy is to embody the values of our nationhood, it would be incongruous for the title to be passed to one of those currently in line for the throne. One would have hoped that Madonna had opened a long overdue dialogue on the relevance of the monarchy to today's and tomorrow's Canada.

Gary Deane,
Mississauga, Ont.

You cite the date of Prince Charles's investiture as Prince of Wales as July, 1988. That is incorrect. It took place on July 1, 1980, when he was 21 years old and not 9, as your date would imply.

Donald W. P. O'Brien,
Eggleston, Ont.

Changing times

I spent 30 years in the Canadian Forces, having served at a number of rank levels, first as a noncommissioned and later as a commissioned officer. I find it hard to believe that the chief of the defence staff could issue an order so brazen—for the entire department to drop all but the most essential duties on one day to

search for missing papers ("What did he know?" Cover, April 15). The idea that documents of this nature could somehow miraculously appear in a filing cabinet at CFS Alert on Ellesmere Island or on the few still operational HMCS ships is grotesque and leads one to wonder if the RCMP are now in charge of Defence. I am sure there are officers who must be shaking their heads over this absurd order; unfortunately, policy and regulations prevent them from publicly airing their concerns. It is, therefore, up to the retired members of the military to speak out against and condemn the attitude of being late after "one final" and "golden" pay even but at any cost, which has become an acceptable practice by many of the should-be leaders turned businessmen in uniform.

Bob J. J. Kennedy (Ret.),
Eggleston, Ont.

Regardless of the controversy that Gen. Joes Boyle now faces, he has been a stand-out soldier and commander, and was given the chief of the defence job on those mer-

Loss of imagination

I was appalled to read about the installation of video screens at Calgary public pools ("Movies make a big splash in Calgary," Opening Notes, April 13). Have we sacrificed our imaginative faculties for spoon-fed entertainment to such an extent that we are no longer capable of enjoying leisure time without Hollywood's presence? Please do not publish the news of the first public pools to have television installed at its public tables—it would wash away my last shred of hope for Canadian society.

Chris Pacey,
Orrville, B.C.

It is that he had a plan to become chief is consistent with his training as a soldier and a professional. That it should be held up as a lack in standing to the man and to anyone who strives to be the best in his/her chosen field, is in all too Canadian a perspective. Apologize for your own success, and criticize another's.

Joe Fenn,
Glenora, B.C.

Where! We made it. No foreign power seized the opportunity and invaded when Canada's armed forces took the day off to rifle through drawers and cupboards looking for missing Somalia files. We can sleep easy again.

Richard Long,
Burnaby, B.C.

A 'lofty perch'

Before presenting her report ("The Pension system: 'Crust and degradation,'" Canada/Special Report, April 10), Justice Louise Arbour should have stepped down from her lofty perch and donated the salaries of a female correctional officer. If she had spent just one day working in the Prison for Women, subjected to the cruel and degrading treatment female guards suffer every day, every shift, at the hands of violent inmates, just perhaps her report would have been less slanted.

All Wandering,
Eggleston, Ont.

The people who were disciplined in prison are not Salvation Army workers as your slanted article would lead one to believe. They are hardened criminals who brought the actions of the riot against their own selves. Shame on you for publishing the prattle of Justice Louise Arbour and her politically correct bunch.

Fred E. Boren,
London, Ont.

Rumours



You're not sure where you heard it. Or when it's just something someone told you once something you know. But times change. And myths unravel. And suddenly you realize that yesterday's rumours have made you most sure in one of life's great truths.

Like today's pork. It's time to stop thinking pork is fatty and hard to cook. It can be as lean as chicken, better value than beef. A quick and flavorful weeknight meal, and perfect for dinner with friends. Pork is the mouth-watering alternative your family would love more often. So rise above the rumours. Discover the joys of today's tender, delicious pork. And pass it on.

PORK

Feel free to love it.



Queen Elizabeth II with Prince Charles on the British monarchy has had its day in the sun

I was interested to read Andrew Phillips' essay, "Canada's Queen." The contention is made first, as a symbol of the class system in the United Kingdom, the monarchy is not offensive to Canada since "our privileged class" is "invisibly bourgeoisie." That is exactly why the monarchy is no longer relevant to Canada. Then, the statement is made that the monarchy somehow makes an difference. It is by "different," Phillips means "strange" to the extent that one

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Maclean's welcomes readers' views but letters may be edited for space and clarity. Please supply names, addresses and daytime telephone numbers. Submissions may appear in Maclean's electronic news.

This just in...

Meferin Peter C. Newman protests so convincingly at the thought of the scores of Reformers turning innocent Conservatives into the victims of battles ("Hell no, Charcoal too") go. No way, Peter! The Nation's Business, April 22. I don't like what the Liberals, PCs and NDPers have done to my province, and country I don't like what the Bloc Québécois and the Parti Québécois propose to do to Canada and Quebec. Why must we blindly cry on into the eternal Liberal/PC-Liberal PC rivalry?

Amey Bhebi,
Guelph, B.C.

Peter C. Newman says that Preston Manning's Reform party has "attracted some of the loudest frustrations ever to emerge from the political swamp." I should like to bring to his attention that frustrations are much more apt to emerge from baloney than from swamps.

John Adams,
Nelson, Oct. 26

Congratulations, Peter C. Newman. You've come out of the closet and admitted you are a Reformist. You see, without a doubt, the loudest frustration I ever read, and your criticism certainly emerge from the deepest political swamp. By your own words, that qualifies you as a Reformist, per se. In fact, I do hope, however, that some day you will find out what Reform is about and what the citizens Reformers are.

Peter Langevin,
Thunder Bay

Smoking Mom

In response to the letter congratulating Vancouver for banning smoking at restaurants ("Smoking ban," April 22), I have some happy, healthy, nonpregnant children, and nearly 30. I child-reared through my pregnancies and while my children were being raised. So glad that later

The primes have been my home for 57 years. Please people hear the whisper of Canada in the wind, the ever-changing big sky speaks to them of wilderness, things that directly affect us. Even-though, and the role and goals of a prime minister are passed into their very souls.

Prime children run free in green pastures and sometimes tumble on a lady slipper. Rarely will they pick the daisies, orchid-like flowers because they know it would offend in their hands and the flowers they carry the image of its beauty in their heads. When they are old like me, they conjure up memories of this daisy flower and the green pastures, and it somehow gets a lot up with love of Canada.

Canada whispers to us all. You can hear "Canada, Canada" when you sit in a grove of cedars on Vancouver Island and watch the whales playing offshore. You can sense Canada in the foothills of Alberta, with the purple mountains towering in the distance. You can smell Canada in the colored fields of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, the luscious call of a loon on Lake Winnipeg suggests a feeling of solitude and a kind of archaic Canadian melancholy. When the leaves are changing color in Ontario, the glassy lakes reflect such vivid beauty one has to pause and meditate. Canada whispers to us of a land much greater than any of us. Can one walk along the banks of the mighty St.

Late Williams

reiner's life wasn't around when I was busy having and raising my three "contributions to society." But all our charges to do B.C. individual plan together for the past decade and you'll have a problem finding the \$55 annual deductible. Source only has data

Lawrence and not feel loved by its power? One saw the sea reflected in the eyes of Marianne. The mysterious North—can anyone watch the Northern Lights and not hear the whisper?

Last October during a trip to Vienna, I met a young couple from Quebec. Those were pre-referendum days and the conversation at dinner turned to Canadian politics. There were other Canadians there as well, and, of course, the anger and frustration came spilling out. Very soon the couple from Quebec quietly left. When we met again a few days later, I put my arms around them and expressed regret at the rather effusive rhetoric at the table. "Don't worry," said the young man, "I'm sorry myself—I don't blame Canadians for being mad. Tomorrow I'm going home to vote No in the referendum." Suddenly, it was very important for me to ask if we were friends. "We will always be friends," said he, smiling and shaking my hand. I cannot describe the rest of warmth I felt at the whisper of Canada between us—this visible bond.

While politicians barge about cultural differences and argue about what region of the country needs to be distinct from the other, Canada lies open and calm, offering up more earthly pleasures than can be imagined by land people obsessed with ambition and power. Would these people pick up the lady slipper, I wonder?

The Road Ahead series continues to advance specific solutions to Canada's political, social and economic problems. Unpublished correspondence may not be published in regular letters to appear in our electronic edition only.

from people who request the medical profession—many of us fortunately haven't needed the service. The academic criteria really need some research.

Fat Nagas
Denton, B.C. (E)

680 News's

ALL NEWS RADIO

Macleans

CANADA'S WEEKLY MAGAZINE

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Smells like the farm.



On a farm in southern Alberta, a perennial plant called *monarda* is cultivated. It yields an aromatic oil which is exported internationally to the world's perfume industry. Surprised? That's just one of the many ways agriculture, food processing, and their value-added industries contribute over 11 billion dollars to the Alberta economy. Today's farmers are diversifying so that agriculture remains economically and environmentally sustainable. Because we're growing more than food. We're growing Alberta.

Smells like the farm.

Another View



Charles Gordon Smoke clouds and survival of the arts

The Liberal government must be sitting there laughing. It has screwed up yet again, and yet again it will get away with it. How else to describe the spectacle of the anti-smoking groups telling the heritage minister, Sheila Copps, to cut back funding to the National Arts Centre?

This unlikely crossing of events could only happen here. Funding of the National Arts Centre has become the concern of the anti-smoking lobby supported by such entertainers as Lucie Arnott and Sharon, Lois & Bram because the NAC, like other arts organizations, continues to accept the sponsorship of tobacco companies. The government, which is being forced to draft a new law making most tobacco advertising illegal (since the last one was declared unconstitutional), finds itself in a position where it can appear virtuous once more, trotting in the background, as the people who hate tobacco sponsorship and the people who need tobacco sponsorship beat up on each other.

Let us pause for a moment to remember who started all this. Why, it was the good old federal government. It squeezed the hell out of arts organizations so that they desperately needed funding. And it failed to deal effectively with the smoking problem.

Right now we still have smoking and we have an arts community that is starving for funding. About one more government trifles fine and we will have even more smoking and no arts community at all.

If we take the long view, smoking is going away. Ten years ago, no one could have imagined how little smoking there would be now at public places, and particularly work places. Ten years before that—nobody in the office, smokers in the homes and the grocery stores—no one could have imagined what the situation would be 10 years from then.

Laws had almost nothing to do with what happened. Governments merely tried to catch up with what ordinary people were doing. It was moral persuasion, name things, educate, learned at school and brought home to their parents. It was employers responding to pressure from their employees. It was laws having the courage to say "Yes" to the question, "Mind if I smoke?" And finally, it was smokers at last recognizing that the rules had changed.

Very little of this change had to do with government. The government can put warning labels on things, organizations it sponsors that it will: the government can do—but it can't change what is in people's hearts and minds—or lungs, for that matter.

It may be that commentators and anti-smokers, seeing the federal government adopt a weak but at least official anti-smoking position, were impatient somewhat, and that may have made some difference. What made a bigger difference was taxation. Successive governments slapped higher and higher taxes on cigarettes. Eventual-

ly, it was costing \$7 to buy a pack out of a machine. That got to the hearts and minds, particularly of young people, but also of those who had long wanted to quit but needed an extra incentive.

The incentive was working when a new provision arose—smuggling. Cigarettes could be brought in directly from the United States—sometimes our own cigarettes that had been exported—and resold for large profits. The federal government, a liberal government, worried about smuggling, worried about it more than it worried about smoking. The government had two options: it could have enforced the existing laws against smuggling, coupled with a campaign for public recognition of the destructive nature of smuggling and buying smuggled goods, or it could have ignored the problem.

Ignoring the problem might have caused it to go away eventually. Smuggling and buying smuggled cigarettes would have become socially unacceptable. But doing nothing doesn't play well politically. On the other hand, attacking the problem by enforcing the law would have been expensive. The government decided to do a third thing: it reduced the tax on cigarettes.

Smuggling went away—or at least away from the headlines. And smoking didn't. The government did what governments do: it made the warning labels on cigarette packages bigger.

This had the usual effect. Then the courts ruled that cigarette advertising couldn't be banned. This is about where we are now. Cigarette smoking endures, particularly among women and young people. Discreet messages from tobacco corporations adorn bus shelters. The government is planning to ban advertising again.

The warnings on cigarette packages can't get any bigger unless the cigarette packages get bigger. The government probably wouldn't like that. Or perhaps it might. It might announce a new anti-smoking strategy based on the existence of larger packages for larger warnings. Or it might decide to do the reverse—announce, as part of its new anti-smoking strategy, a law setting maximum sizes for cigarette packages. Coupled with an aggressive public education strategy, that could keep the debate going at least until the next election is safely out of the way.

Which brings us to our present situation, with Canadian performers held hostage in the war between the arts groups and the anti-smoking groups. And the government, which feared the results of the arts on the tobacco companies, refusing to be even the slightest bit intimidated of such. You could easily argue that the government, had it done absolutely nothing, could not have produced a worse situation. In a moment of extreme irony, discussion has turned in some quarters to the suggestion that a special tax be imposed on tobacco products, which would be earmarked for the arts. Just a minute. What's there a tax on tobacco products once? Back when nobody smoked?

Ottawa can appear virtuous as the people who hate tobacco sponsorship and those who need it beat each other up

Opening Notes

Edited by BARBARA WICKENS

Keeping up a castle is hard on a budget

It was a larger-than-average alumni donation. In 1993, wealthy industrialist Alfred Blader of Milwaukee gave Queen's University in Kingston, Ont., \$12.5 million to buy and renovate the 15th-century Henrician-style Castle in East Sussex, England. Blader hoped that an International Study Centre at the restored 149-room castle on a 325-acre estate would give Queen's a greater international presence. But life may set go too happily ever after at the castle



Neoclassical Gothic plans for Queen's University's \$12.5-million proper add-on below

The centre, while attracting foreign students that expected, has run up a bill of \$14.7 million. As a result, the university's board of trustees—flooded with a shrinking budget for Queen's as a whole following government cuts to postsecondary education—planned to sell Henricianmancus. But after an outcry of students support for the castle, the board has put off a final vote on the sale until May. As for Blader, he says "I would absolutely be a martyr" to sell the castle. "I don't give millions of dollars away just to be nice," he adds. "I hoped it would do some good."

Hockey afternoon in America

First, Quebec City lost the Nordiques to Denver, then the Jets said they were leaving Winnipeg for Phoenix, Ariz. Now, Montreal Canadiens fans are upset that the NHL may have yielded yet more ground to the Yanks. With two weekends of playoff hockey complete, Habs fans were left fuming because games that traditionally would have been played on Saturday night were instead held over to Sunday afternoon. That week to accommodate Los Angeles-based Fox Broadcasting Co., which has a five-year, \$212-million deal to televise NHL games in the United States, where sports fans prefer Sunday games. The CBC got "hundreds" of complaints, says John Shannon, executive producer of *Hockey Night in Canada*. And Fox's response? "It's the National Hockey League," says vice-president of media relations Vince Winiwiler. "and I'd look at myself as visiting North America."



Armed with postapocalyptic standard issue (North America)

History on the block

Aspeners from the British auction house Sotheby's spent six months carefully evaluating items from the estate of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis—and missed the mark by a mile. Many of the 1,250 items sold at a four-day auction in New York City last week drew prices low, and even hundreds of times higher than expected. "When we did the estimates, there was no reflection of Mrs. Onassis in the estimates," explained a Sotheby's spokesman. Sotheby's U.S. president, The total take from the auction—planned by John Kennedy Jr. and Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg according to the wishes of their mother, who died in May, 1994, from cancer—

- was \$44 million, eight times the predicted \$5.5 million. What some items fetched (pre-sale estimate in brackets):
- 40-cent diamond ring from Jacqueline Onassis, \$2.5 million (\$580,000 to \$1.4 million)
- 18th century desk, \$1.9 million (\$27,000 to \$41,000)
- John F. Kennedy's MacGregor woods and golf bag, \$1.1 million (\$250 to \$1,200)
- walnut cigar humidor, \$784,000 (\$2,700)
- silk smoking chair, \$624,000 (\$4,300)
- Caroline Kennedy's smoking pants, \$115,000 (\$2,700)
- silver-plated cocktail shaker, \$31,400 (\$270)
- rose-inked statue of a mouse on a corn cob, \$15,000 (\$950 to \$1,400)

Name that town

Bernie Cohen's lower mainland has been experiencing a boom lately. He led in large measure by immigrants from Hong Kong, Taiwan and other parts of the Pacific Rim. But to the city councilors of Port Moody, it seemed their community was not thriving in the degree of nearby neighbors Richmond and Coquitlam. Part of the problem, they determined, was that Port Moody's Asian Chinese characters translated into something like "Lonely Skyway." So last week, the councilors unanimously passed a resolution changing the characters. Now, Port Moody will be known to the Chinese as "Little Filled With Treasures." City Hall at work.

Dressing the part

When women first joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in 1974, they wore uniforms more similar for flight attendants than police officers—pale down to a purse and high heels. But since 1989, female members—who now make up 11 per cent of the 15,000-member force—have been wearing the traditional patrol jacket, navy trousers, dress-grey shirt and blue tie. But there was still one problem: the suitably uniformed officers complained that the jumper style dress with its pleated front and lack of hoops made it impractical to wear a gun belt—and therefore impossible to perform their normal duties. (The RCMP has no policy on shoulder holsters.) Brads, so some officers, the jumper did not command the prestige and authority of the regular uniform. In response to those concerns, RCMP headquarters in Ottawa contracted Sandra Tullio-Pow, a maternity wear specialist who lectures at Ryerson Polytechnic University's School of Fashion in Toronto, to design a prototype maternity uniform. "They don't



Armed with postapocalyptic standard issue (North America)

want to look any different from the men because it would take away from their quest for equality," says Tullio-Pow, who consulted nine feminist gangster officers across Canada. Four officers have been wearing the new design that she completed last December, and reaction so far is favorable. "It's really comfortable," says Const. Marie-Claude Arsenault of Burnsville, Ont., now six months pregnant, who wears regular maternity clothing during her first pregnancy in 1993 while working in Toronto's administrative office that provided security for diplomats late clearly time to update an old saying—clothes make the Moccasin.

BEST-SELLERS

- FICITION**
1. *The Death of Innocence*, John Grisham (2)
 2. *The Creative Process*, John Grisham (3)
 3. *Love, Apple*, Lisa Lore (4)
 4. *Madison, Christy Lee*
 5. *The Woman Who Walked into Doors*, Emily Gault (5)
 6. *The Concessionaire*, Claudia Gray (6)
 7. *Black Lines*, John Grisham (7)
 8. *Lost Girls*, Graham Swift
 9. *Primary Colors*, Anonymous (1)
 10. *In the Presence of the Enemy*, Michael Crichton (1)
- NONFICTION**
1. *Time and Chance*, Ken Coughlin (2)
 2. *In Company*, Christopher Lasch (3)
 3. *Stacy Thomas*, Stacy Thomas
 4. *Emotional Intelligence*, Daniel Goleman (4)
 5. *Mr. Survivor*, John Seigler (5)
 6. *The Way of the Wizard*, Daniel Goleman (6)
 7. *Cracking the Code*, John Seigler (7)
 8. *The Great Smiling Man*, John Seigler (8)
 9. *Manhood*, David Shields (9)
 10. *Don't Give Me This*, John Seigler (10)

1. *Positive* last week. Compiled by Steve Pollack

Poetry and history

The debut novel by award-winning Toronto poet Anne Michaels, chronicles the connection between two men from different eras, both transformed by war. Michaels centres characters that are poetic and unforgettable, drawing the reader into their lives and the historical context that shaped them.

POP MOVIES



With unsavory cargo: Hat Squad on patrol

The new detective thriller *Unsub* is back in a new 1995 Los Angeles police precinct that was created to fight organized crime. Nick Nolte stars as Sam Weaver, the leader of the elite Hat Squad, which discovers widespread corruption in the military.

Top reasons in Canada according to best-seller lists during the seven days that ended on April 15: (in brackets, numbers of recommendations)

1. *Planet Fall* (2544)
2. *The Believers* (1375)
3. *The Wings* (1375)
4. *Mr. Whitehouse* (1281)
5. *News and the Great Flood* (1140)
6. *Star Trek* (1023)
7. *Calder Palace* (1023)
8. *Who's the Man Who's the Man?* (1023)
9. *Executive Decision* (1023)
10. *Dead Man Walking* (1023)

Compiled by Steve Pollack and John Seigler

Passages

RECOVERING: Victim federal Liberal

Monty Gray, 54, the government House Leader and solicitor general, from esophageal cancer, at his home in Ottawa. Aides say that Gray, the longest sitting member of the House of Commons, is expected to return to his office part time this week and make a full recovery from the small-cell carcinoma of the esophagus that was discovered in its early stages and is being treated with



chemotherapy. First elected from the riding now known as Windsor West in 1982, Gray has won 11 consecutive elections and served in the cabinets of Pierre Trudeau, John Turner and Jean Chretien.

DIED: Columnist Erna Barabak, 69

whose humorous accounts of the daily life of housewives and parents delighted millions of North American readers, of complications following a kidney transplant, in a San Francisco hospital. Barabak, who began writing in 1964, was syndicated in some 600 newspapers, including 18 in Canada.

WON: By Sherry Turner, 30, awards

for her best new female singer and album of the year, at the 51st annual Academy of Country Music Awards, in Hollywood, Calif.

RETIRED: Senator Keith Dewey, 70,

the third longest serving senator and for more than four decades the quintessential liberal Liberal party "insomniac," effective on June 30, five years before his mandatory retirement, in order to spend more time with his family. Lester Poon named Dewey, who became known as "The Rainmaker" for his electoral successes, to the upper chamber in 1995.

DIED: Jean Auld, 82, the first

franchised chief of defence staff (1966-1990), in Toronto, Ont.

In 1993, the Liberals promised to 'kill' the GST. Last week's about-face was a blow to the government's credibility.



Promises, Promises

BY E. KAYE FULTON

His party had taken almost three years to admit the obvious—that it could not find a way to fulfil its pledge to scrap the Goods and Services tax. And the least his colleagues could do, as John Nantais's opinion was, to wait another week for his explanation of why he had broken with them. On April 16, the 19-year veteran Liberal MP voted against his government's budget to protest its failure to do away with the GST. Appalled by his brazen behaviour, Liberal MPs at their weekly caucus snarling less than 24 hours later chastised the Toronto MP, a man they had once lauded as a member of the United Rat Pack that had galvanized the faltering Liberals in the mid-1980s. In turn, the rebel in their midst ignored them; he would speak only when Prime Minister Jean Chrétien returned on April 20 from a four-day trip to Russia. Chrétien never got that chance. Expedited from the Liberal caucus by Chrétien in a letter fixed to his Toronto house on Monday morning, Nantais was a problem that the Liberal government had decided it could no longer tolerate. By Friday, the party brass was hoping that both he—and the settlement issue that he staked his career upon—would simply fade away.

Funny thing, politics. A day after Nantais's expulsion from the Liberal caucus, Finance Minister Paul Martin collapsed in Ottawa



Chrétien waving Red Book in Toronto with his children and wife, Caroline (left); Coppi and Martin join in the Commons (top); an admission: that the Liberals had made an "honest mistake"

that the Liberals had made an "honest mistake" in 1993 when they vowed to abolish the GST—a promise that senior Liberals in the party knew as early as June, 1994, it could not keep. Instead, Martin confessed himself with announcing last week that three Atlantic provinces—Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick—had agreed to merge their sales taxes with the GST (page 16). And, the Finance Minister said, Ottawa intends to continue pursuing a cause that senior Liberals previously acknowledged to be dead last week as, for the moment, all but doomed: harmonizing the GST with provincial sales taxes at a single rate of 15 per cent from coast to coast.

The Liberals expected their about-face to cause a stir. In fact, party strategists spent three weeks perfecting Martin's apologetic pitch. They even anticipated complaints from Ontario, British Columbia and Alberta that the \$890-million co-operation package used to entice the Atlantic provinces to join Ottawa's plan was little more than a political bribe. Yet the outpouring of public sympathy for Nantais's kookishness did against the GST came as a surprise to senior Liberals. Said one top official at Chrétien's office, "Nantais was a reminder of how vulnerable we are on this issue."

The enduring GST has hit the Prime Minister and his government where they hurt most. Unseated after power in November, 1993, on a platform that billed in large part on restoring "honesty and integrity" to federal politics, Chrétien has staged a skilful and determined game to convince the public that he has kept his word. "There will not be a scenario that I will make in the campaign that I will not keep," Chrétien boasted on Sept. 10, 1993, waving the party's famous Red

Book of campaign promises. Key among those pledges was a carefully worded statement that a Liberal government "will replace the GST" with a system that guarantees economical recovery and "an increase in provincial co-operation and harmonization."

If the Liberals had gone to further, they would likely not face such a serious loss of political credibility. But before the 1993 campaigns, and all through it, Chrétien and other top Liberals repeatedly and faintly stated that they would scrap, even "kill," the GST—

despite the fact that polls showed that few Canadians expected to see the end of the tax they loved to hate. Another key Liberal promise was the abandonment of the role of rank-and-file MPs, with more free votes on controversial issues and a greater say in government business—a pledge that Nantais challenged to the extreme. The coexistence of these two issues last week was arguably the most damaging blow to Chrétien's consistently high popularity this government currently has an approval rating of 56 per cent. "It's going to take more than this to get the Liberals into deep trouble," said pollster Duane Desjar, vice-president

THE LINE—THEN AND NOW

"I would abolish the GST. The Manufacturers' Sales Tax [which the GST replaced] is a bad tax, but there's no excuse to repeal one bad tax by bringing in another one."

Paul Martin, April 4, 1990

"I am opposed to the GST. I have always been opposed to it and I will be opposed to it always."

Joan Christian, Oct. 26, 1990

"A Liberal government will replace the GST with a system that generates equivalent revenues, is fairer to consumers and to small business, and promotes federal-provincial co-operation and harmonization." The Liberals' Red Book of election promises, Sept., 1993

"If the GST is not abolished under a Liberal government, I will resign."

Shane Coppi, Oct. 16, 1993

"We hate it and we will kill it!"

Joan Christian, May 2, 1994

"We made a mistake. It was a mistake in thinking we could bring in a completely different tax without undue economic disruption and within a reasonable time period."

Paul Martin, April 23, 1996

"We are fulfilling the promise that we made as set out in the Red Book."

Joan Christian, April 26, 1996

"The fact is that when you're on the campaign trail, you get excited and sometimes you shoot from the lip. Did I make a mistake in making that statement? Yes, in the Catholic vernacular, it was venial not mortal. I think it should go to purgatory and not hell."

Shane Coppi, April 25, 1996

Backstage Ottawa

The week of shame

Small wonder that Jean Chrétien walked, not flew, to a Montreal businessmen's introduction to him at a public dinner as Canada's "Trade prize minister." After all, consider these figures: In 1988, Canada's annual exports to the United States were valued \$31 billion. Seven years later, the total was \$202 billion. Canada, as the *Washington Post* observed recently, has become one of the world's great free-trading nations. Among the factors fueling that, three came to mind: the implementation of the Free Trade Agreement, the expanded North American Free Trade Agreement, and the Goods and Services Tax.

What else do those numbers have in common? The Liberals criticized such while in opposition, only to embrace them in government. Proof, once again, that the Liberals are the party of the middle ground: they praise like New Democrats in opposition, then govern like Progressive Conservatives.

Conservatives, that is, today, neither party is a champion for political survival. And the Liberals, desperately backtracking on the GST as it becomes the old-style political tactics are a modern recipe for trouble.

The public matters more than parliamentary procedure. Never mind the Liberal's argument that they had to fire John Manos because his vote against the budget was a constitutional protest. What matters is this: No Liberal who renounces the Liberals they broke a promise, is gone. Sheila Copps, who promised repeatedly and unequivocally to resign if that promise was broken, remains.

An election campaign is absolutely the right time to talk about serious issues. The Liberals pursued it all over the unfortunate Kim Campbell in 1988 when she said that an election campaign was not the right time to engage in serious debate. Last week, Copps discussed her campaign platform to mull if the GST isn't scrapped or changed so that by consensus in the course of an election campaign, "inspired minds were to know why it was fair for

Christians to pity Campbell and laugh along with Copps.

Don't criticize just for the sake of it. When the GST was passed, indifferent Liberals charged both and while whistles in the Senate in protest, while MPs did their best to ignore public opinion. They didn't have an alternative solution then, or now, yet they never surprised that the same anger they soaked has turned back on them. The reality is that the GST is similar to Europe's Value Added Tax, is efficient and essential. It has lowered the price of exported goods by up to three per cent because it removes the effect of previous inflation taxes and thus drives the

growth of the export sector. Only one promise you can keep. The Liberal's greatest success is Paul Martin's deficit reduction program. He sets targets that it seems could be met, which required only self-discipline to achieve. On the other hand, the Liberals fail miserably when they make vows beyond their ability to control. The GST is the most obvious example, along with their promise that they could mislead the intentions of Quebec voters and guarantee the country a satisfactory referendum result. They also promised to reform health care without first securing the co-operation of the provinces, and to tear up the continuing Toronto's Pearson Airport without any kind of the legal consequences.

Do the right thing: Martin was right to say the Liberals should never have promised to scrap the GST, but indignity that's a byproduct of the GST. Jean Chrétien, whose reputation for honesty has been derided, today is poorer in that area. He could have said straight from the heart that his government failed, and he was sorry. Instead, he walked and he lied, and he was accused before MP Deborah Goff, a former NDP schoolteacher who is one of the toughest and most effective MPs in Parliament—of being as sneaky as a Grade 7 student.

Perhaps. But some students remember the lessons their parents taught them about honesty, integrity and responsibility. That's more than can be said about the Liberals in their week of shame.



Philly: for
realities in
Toronto's grocery

Frank McKenna had a big smile on his face, and a new spin on a familiar sales pitch. In a national newspaper advertisement that appeared last week, the New Brunswick premier told readers across the country that "the best place in Canada to do business keeps getting better and better." Why? Because New Brunswick, along with Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, had agreed to harmonize its provincial sales tax with the federal Goods and Services tax. While many Canadians may still believe that the Liberals should have lifted the GST, business leaders across the country—because it's easier and cheaper to administer. That same observation is what McKenna succeeds in selling business to New Brunswick with his latest sales pitch, he may do more than business groups to brag about the fact that Ontario and the western provinces should be harmonized with the GST. "The pressure on them will increase when Frank McKenna and I meet to see how we can build your plant for 10 per cent less than it costs to build in Ontario," said David Perry, senior research associate of the Canadian Tax Foundation. "These things are important to investors."

Although the federal government announced more than 100 changes to the GST last week, harmonization was clearly the most important. For many businesses, a uniform sales tax applied at the same rate to the same goods and services everywhere is a vast improvement over the current patchwork of federal and provincial taxes. According to some estimates, a standardized system would save government and business up to \$800 million annually in administration costs, savings that could be passed on to consumers through lower prices. "The announced law work was a good first step," said Elizabeth Mills, director of government relations with the Toronto-based Retail Council of Canada. "We're hoping harmonization happens right across the country in the next few years."

For the time being, however, the three Atlantic provinces

The limits of harmony

will join Quebec, which will be fully harmonized by November, in what is sure to become a closely watched test of the system. Consumers and businesses in those provinces will experience major changes in the taxes they pay. "Atlantic Canada is a laboratory exercise," said Perry. "The government will see the pitfalls and be able to take appropriate action."

And given the magnitude of the changes, there are bound to be problems. Newfoundlanders currently pay a combined GST and PST of 19 per cent on most consumer goods, while Nova Scotians and New Brunswickers pay 18 per cent. Those rates are scheduled to fall to 15 per cent, a close match to consumers, when the harmonized tax goes into effect, possibly as early as April 1997. But taxes on some goods and many services will rise. Some things—including children's clothing, books, magazines, haircuts and other services—are currently exempt from provincial sales tax. Under the new system, however, they will be taxed at 15 per cent because PST will be applied to the same items as the GST.

Another key change, which Ottawa has proposed, is called tax-included pricing. Currently, the sticker price on consumer goods does not include tax. That results in the familiar jolt at the cash register when it turns out that the final cost is anywhere between 7 and 15 per cent higher, depending on the province. According to Rosalie Todd, executive-director of the Ottawa-based Com-

The experiment in Atlantic Canada may force other provinces to follow suit

modity Association of Canada, market surveys have shown that most people prefer to have the final, tax-included price shown on the sticker. That is the system that Ottawa has now proposed. But it has also suggested that the sales receipt should

clearly show the GST/PST portion of the price so that consumers can see the tax being added.

Some national retail chains have serious concerns about including taxes in the sticker price if the move is limited to only a few provinces. Harold Chalmers, vice-president of planning and location for the Toronto-based Hudson's Bay Co., which operates 600 Bay and Zellers stores across the country, said that adopting tax-included pricing would force the company to create a special pricing regime in the three Atlantic provinces, a move that would be expensive and impractical. Chalmers said that, with the exception of big-ticket items like appliances, the company usually charges the same price across the country, and price tags are often applied to merchandise by the manufacturer. If Ottawa decides to tax-included pricing, retail chains like The Bay and Zellers would be forced to

employ people to apply new stickers on merchandise destined for Newfoundland, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. "I'm not sure we can produce separate price tags on any kind of economic basis for three provinces," said Chalmers.

Initial public reaction to the changes in parts of Atlantic Canada was resoundingly negative. Some members of the newly formed regional council proposed a tax revolt against the province to protest harmonization. "Let's not pay them a damned cent and make them take us to court," said Councilor Bruce Hestington, who was promptly ruled out of order by Mayor Walter Fitzgerald. "The government is trying to say that the increases and decreases will balance out," added Elaine Price, president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour. "But look at the increases—children's clothing, hair, electricity and books."

Meanwhile, the reaction among small business owners in Atlantic Canada was mixed. "This is a step in the right direction," said Carol Alexander, manager of Don's Collision, an auto-repair shop in Fredericton. "We will have only one, cheaper to write instead of two and only one tax versus two." But Marlene Pitt, owner of Haskins Barber Shop in the New Brunswick capital, said some of his customers were already complaining about the prospect of paying higher taxes on haircuts. "The tax used to be 10 per cent, now it's 15," he said. "It's true if you're going to buy a car or fridge or stove, but how often do you do that?"

For some businesses, though, the new system is attractive because it will end the need to deal with both provincial and federal sales tax collectors. "That revolution led to the formation of a coalition of almost 55 business and trade associations, including automakers, grocers and doctors, under the leadership of the Retail Council of Canada, to lobby for a uniform national sales tax. But some coalition members admit that even their combined clout may not be enough to overcome public resistance and political hostility to harmonization, particularly in Ontario, where Conservative Premier Mike Harris is unapologetically opposed, and in British Columbia where all three major party leaders have declared their opposition. "We're a long way from any kind of harmonized national system," said Jack Polakow, vice-president of the Business Council of B.C. "The federal Liberal government is a proponent of its hands because of its promise to lift the GST. Provincial politicians don't see why they should shoulder part of the risk to get the Liberals out of a box." Used they have a change of heart, the country's sales tax system will remain fragmented, messy and expensive.

DANIEL JENKINS



Double Jeopardy: Earl Joudrie, Earl Joudrie's wife, and Earl Joudrie's wife, both captured Calgary's attention.

captured the attention of Calgary. The wealth and social standing of the former couple clearly failed that interest—as did the old testimony about illness and ineptness, heavy drinking and even physical abuse in the Joudrie home. Last week, the Crown called two of the couple's four children to testify. Both talked about frequent arguments between their parents and about their mother's consumption of alcohol and their daughters, Carolyn Murphy, 36, told the court that when she met her mother at Calgary's remand centre a day after the shooting, her mother talked about playing bridge and about an upcoming meeting. "It upset me greatly," she said. Later, on cross-examination, Murphy agreed that it seemed almost as if her mother was in denial that anything had happened. She also agreed that Dorothy Joudrie had been a caring and generous woman who kept busy with a long list of community commitments.

The court heard that Dorothy Joudrie was involved in charities like Easter Seals campaigns, that she sat on the board of a local golf club, for example, and served as volunteer protocol chairman for the International Olympic Committee at the 1988 Winter Games in Calgary.

But the witness who spent the longest time on the stand last week was the victim himself, Earl Joudrie, who suffered a collapsed lung and was left with a heart ailment as a result of the shooting, and that on that point during the trial. He testified that he was blindfolded, Dorothy remained. "You haven't changed your will, as I'll put everything." After he was finally persuaded by her to call 911 and the police arrived, he told them that there was a gun around. "My anxiety was that she might use it," he testified. Dorothy, a 52-year-old woman, meanwhile, testified that Dorothy said that she wanted to go to the hospital with her husband. And one officer said that when he told Dorothy it would help her to see her husband, she said that she was all alone. And Dorothy Joudrie said that she recalled seeing very and "The next thing I saw was Earl's face," she testified. He had a terrible expression, she said, "when-looking and wretched." She said she heard him calling for help, as it from her eyes. Next, she told the court, she saw him lying on the garage floor.

The trial, which continues this week, has

University of Alberta and married in 1967. They started a family and, while Earl Joudrie worked his way up the corporate ladder, they moved from Calgary to Toronto and on to Kentucky. In the meantime, he was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease—a form of cancer—in 1971, and he spent last week of the strain that put on Dorothy. But Joudrie also testified about arguments that escalated into "pushing and shoving on both sides" and to several occasions when he struck his wife. The last such time was in 1976, he said, while the family was living in Kentucky and his wife suffered brain injury. Joudrie testified that it was generally something he had or had not done—and that Dorothy was angry about—that sparked their violent arguments. He said that his wife told him "I was not Dorothy's husband, it was my fault." But he also testified that Dorothy "would never leave anything alone."

At the time of the Kentucky incident, Joudrie's job kept him extremely busy and he was travelling so much he was spending little time at home. He decided to quit his job and, in 1979, the family moved back to Calgary. Joudrie testified that he never struck his wife again, although he did punch holes in walls—adding that Dorothy made holes in the walls, too. He also said that his wife had a growing drinking problem and that they sought marriage counselling in the mid-1980s. But their relationship never recovered. Earl Joudrie has moved to Toronto since the couple separated in 1989 and Dorothy moved out of the family home just outside of Calgary in 1990. On the stand last week, he described Dorothy, from whom he was finally divorced following the shooting incident, as a popular person who "was a winner and saw herself as such." But he also said that she could be quite tough and aggressive and, he said, "periodically, somewhat angry."

On the stand, Dorothy Joudrie also recounted stories about their married life, including an incident early in the marriage when she said that her husband slapped her against a wall. She was shocked and threw a cookie jar at him, she said. She described other "violent episodes" including one when she said that he broke her nose. And she told the court that Earl Joudrie did not strike her after Kentucky—although they did continue to have arguments in the 1980s and she felt that she was "sort of walking on eggs." Dorothy Joudrie also told the court about what she described as the "best experience I had in my marriage"—while visiting the Betty Ford clinic some time after the shooting last year. She said that she learned a lot about herself, including that she had low self-esteem and that she was an alcoholic. An attorney at the highly publicized trial was not present, however, learned in the wake of many turbulent years.

MARY McNEIL in Calgary

The document caper

New evidence casts doubt on Gen. Jean Boyle

A journalist mingled outside the Somalia inquiry's Ottawa hearing room, Michael McLaughlin could not be blamed for seeking out the public. After all, it was the CBC's Radio 1 reports' continued requests in 1999 to the department of national defence for Somalia-related documents that led to the current controversy over the alteration of papers. For the chief of the defence staff, Gen. Jean Boyle, it has turned into a major personal and public debacle.

Material submitted during last week's hearings contradicted his earlier claims that he knew nothing of a decision by DND's public affairs officer to change documents released to McLaughlin and, incidentally, McLaughlin was the information that his military was keeping from him, he was disappointed. "Really, really innocuous stuff," he said in an interview. "It's still a mystery to me." Last week, Defence Minister David Collette told the House of Commons that the new developments have sparked military policy to regain their direction into the document caper. Last December, just before he had appointed an as Canada's new chief of the defence staff, Gen. Boyle, he had signed a letter to McLaughlin in which he had said that he had no knowledge of the document caper. Last December, just before he had appointed an as Canada's new chief of the defence staff, Gen. Boyle, he had signed a letter to McLaughlin in which he had said that he had no knowledge of the document caper.



Gen. Boyle, who said he knew nothing about the alteration of Somalia papers.

quite obvious" that Boyle knew about the plan, he admitted.

Boyle's counsel, government lawyer Peter Vitz, said the general will explain any discrepancies when he appears before the commission in mid-May. He said that, in any case, any discrepancies are to be kept from the public. Boyle's counsel, Peter Vitz, said the general will explain any discrepancies when he appears before the commission in mid-May. He said that, in any case, any discrepancies are to be kept from the public. Boyle's counsel, Peter Vitz, said the general will explain any discrepancies when he appears before the commission in mid-May. He said that, in any case, any discrepancies are to be kept from the public.

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LEIGH FISHBEIN in Ottawa

The Joudrie trial reveals a tangled tale of abuse

she told them where to find a 25-calibre Beretta handgun.

By the time of the shooting, the Joudries had been separated for more than five years. But they had previously spent the greater part of their lives together.

CANADA

'How long is it going to take you to die?'

I sounded at times more like the script of a grade-B movie than scenes from the realistic life of one of Canada's corporate titans. During recent testimony in a Calgary courtroom last week, Earl Joudrie—the 69-year-old chairman of Gold Canada Resources Ltd., Alcora Steel Inc. and Canadian Tire Corp. Ltd.—recounted the bizarre events that occurred at the home of his estranged wife Dorothy on a Saturday morning in January, 1999. After what he described as a "rant" conversation over coffee, Joudrie was leaving her house through the garage when he felt the first bullet hit him in the back. Then, after several more gunshots, he lay bleeding on the garage floor with six bullet wounds and a broken right arm. Joudrie testified that he called Dorothy over to sit and talk with him because he thought he was dying, only to have her say: "How long is it going to take you to die?" Initially, he said, her tone was "very controlled, very cold." But then, from off to his side, he heard a new voice say, "Oh my God, how long it does?" Dorothy Joudrie, 62, has pleaded not guilty to charges of attempted murder, ag-

Election showdown in British Columbia



Clark greets Gordon Campbell (right) defender

Clark and his NDP are gaining on Campbell and his Liberals

In the Speaker's corridor of British Columbia's legislative assembly, a handful of reporters are asking B.C. Liberal leader Gordon Campbell for his reaction to the speech from the throne, delivered just minutes earlier by Lt.-Gov. Gerald Gordon. As Campbell fields questions, his eyes stray repeatedly down the corridor. Ten yards away, a much larger scrum surrounds Glen Clark, the province's new NDP premier. At 85, the Liberal leader is a decade older than his rival. And on this afternoon, Campbell turns most of his answers into attacks on his younger opponent. If the NDP wins the next election, Campbell warns, "we can expect our taxes to go up, public debt to go up, tuition fees to go up. That's the NDP record."

But Campbell's attempt to move on to the attack has a hollow ring. In the underfunded campaign that has preoccupied B.C. politicians since Clark succeeded Mike Harcourt as premier on Feb. 25, Campbell is sinking fast—and he knows it. Last November, his Liberals led the NDP by 2 to 1 in opinion surveys. But by mid-March, the two parties were tied at 38 per cent. Asked whether the wheels have fallen off the Liberal wagon, Campbell blinks, then replies: "What it suggests is we better get

out there and work hard if we intend to form the next government."

An election may be called as early as this week—and almost certainly by mid-June (By law, it must be called by October). Much could yet happen before the ballots are counted. But with at least five parties preparing to run, veteran B.C. Liberals have worried for months that Campbell's elusive political convictions and thinly sketched ideas were failing to catch fire among voters. Publicly, party boss soldiers have accused the leader's office of heavy-handed intervention in riding nominations. And the Liberal decline has cheered the leader of the third-place Reform Party of

British Columbia. Made up largely of former Social Credit supporters, the party has bounced between 16 per cent and 24 per cent in recent polls, prompting some to speculate that Reform could use its seat of power as a springboard in a two-way campaign waged between the NDP and the Liberals. But, observed leader Jack Wensinger last week, "I suggest that one of the parties is eroding—the Liberals, not Reform."

In fact, for the moment, any opposition clearly belongs to Clark's rejuvenated NDP. For the premier, last week's parliamentary opening capped a two-month whirlwind of personal appearances. Must have: featured announcements of initiatives ranging from grants and insurance to a monthly cash subsidy for low-income working families. The cost of those undertakings is mounting: according to one tally by *The Vancouver Star*, by mid-April Clark had committed \$1.3 billion.

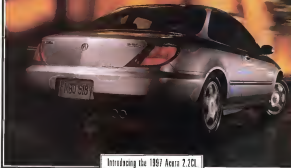
The fiscal confound last week, as Clark addressed voters directly in a 20-minute TV appearance. The contents of his talk were largely repeated two days later in the April 26 throne speech. Both appeals added yet more substance to voters to give the NDP a second term in office, suggesting the party has never been before. Among the latest carrots: tax cuts for small business and the "working" middle class. Pressed by reporters to define that group, a playful Clark replied: "I want to see you confident every single one of you will get a tax break."

Despite the spite of new spending, Clark, a former union organizer, insists that his government's first budget will be balanced when it is presented some time this week. And Clark committed his spending plans with Campbell's agenda, accusing his rival of planning cuts that would be "deeper and more radical than the cuts imposed by the Conservative governments in Ontario and Alberta."

The recent barrage of government announcements has clearly put the opposition on the defensive. New NDP cautions have addressed public concerns ranging from crime control to welfare reform, leaving few issues for Campbell to capitalize on. If anything, Clark's pledge last week of a balanced budget and tax cuts for the middle class served to blunt Liberal hopes for yet another pair of potential issues. Campbell was left to complain less about the promises than about whether Clark can be trusted to deliver. And for Campbell, a core of voters who see his credibility against Clark's map will prove to be a risky strategy.

CHRIS WOOD in Victoria

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Canada NOTES

COPYRIGHT CHANGES

Heritage Minister Sheila Copps today has unveiled amendments to the Copyright Act. The changes will create a new source of revenue for performers, producers and other creators by changing a royalty fee on the 44 million blank cassettes sold each year in Canada—figures that are often used to copy original recordings. The amount of the fee is still to be determined, but Copps said the worldwide average is about 38 cents per tape.

NOVA SCOTIA MILESTONE

For the first time in nearly 25 years, the Nova Scotia government tabled a balanced budget. Premier John Savage's Liberal government projected a \$2.8-billion surplus for the 1996-1997 fiscal year. Ontario, Quebec and Newfoundland are now the only provinces still running annual budget deficits.

'A WAKE-UP CALL'

In a survey of the 14,000-member College of Family Physicians of Canada, 66 per cent of those who responded said that recent cuts in health-care spending have put, or are in danger of putting, patients at risk. "This is a wake-up call for every Canadian," said Dr. Jean-Pierre Swenson, president of the association.

SPRING STORMS

A spring run that turned into a sloppy snowstorm increased the risk of flooding along the already swollen Red River in southern Manitoba. By week's end, the snowstorm had whipped across northern Ontario to the Quebec border, covering roads with ice and contributing to at least three fatal accidents.

AN UNPOPULAR OPTION

A new Angus Reid Group poll indicated that two-thirds of Canadians are opposed to a merger of the federal Conservative and Reform parties.

WESTERN UNITY DRIVE

During a western tour to drum up support for a First Ministers' meeting on national unity scheduled for June, federal Interprovincial Affairs Minister Stéphane Dion met with Saskatchewan Premier Roy Romanow and spoke to a meeting of about 150 Liberals in Edmonton. In his speech, Dion avoided talking about distinct society status for Quebec. "It is a difficult topic because it is very sensitive," he later told reporters.

On the rampage

Manitoba's largest jail was the site of a bloody prisoner uprising that sent 30 inmates and seven guards to hospital with injuries. At one point last Friday, nearly all of the 321 prisoners at the Headingley provincial jail near Winnipeg were on the loose, setting fires, destroying equipment and invading into the prison's medical unit. By Saturday, the prisoners had given themselves up and were transferred to other jails. RCMP officers at the site confiscated one inmate's makeshift knife from the grim area, another prisoner lost two fingers and two others lost one finger during the rampage, but reports of death and castration were not true.

The riot started last Thursday night when prisoners overpowered guards who were conducting a drug search. Les Monksford, a one-time guard at the jail, said he was shocked to see how seriously injured some of his former colleagues had been. "They were no body



Winnipeg police escort an injured inmate; a bloody uprising

beaters they were unrecognizable," he said. Those prisoners who lost their fingers did not undergo reattachment surgery because the fingers had been severed too long. Police said there are three groups at the prison, but the uprising appeared to target inmates who were segregated for sex crimes or because they were informants. Police said inmates believed to be ringleaders would face charges.

EXTREME FIGHTING

Quebec pulls the plug

The Quebec government refused its attempt to ban violent, fictional programming that took place on the Kahnawake Mohawk reserve near Montreal last Friday night. The arena of debate, in the style known as Extreme Fighting, which pro-

hibits only sparring and boxing, was a hit by its American producer, Battlefront Inc., as "the most brutal event in the history of sport." Under the Criminal Code, profanity is illegal in Canada and so they are permitted by provincial laws some violence. While the Quebec commission did not search on Extreme Fighting, members of the Mohawk band maintained that the event was legal because their

own ethnic commission had approved it. Hours before the event, after the federal government had declined to intervene, Quebec won a court injunction to block the television signal that would have broadcast the matches on pay-per-view channels across North America. But viewers were prepared for the move with a backup plan and managed to get their signal out through a series of satellite dishes.

A new blood agency

Federal and provincial health ministers agreed to create a new agency to manage the supply and distribution of blood products in Canada. While the idea remained to be worked out, it appeared that the Red Cross—which has run Canada's blood system since 1958—will play a diminished role. The Red Cross has come under severe criticism over revelations that tainted blood distributed between 1978 and 1985 resulted in thousands of people being infected with AIDS or hepatitis B. A federal inquiry has spent two years and \$44 million studying the scandal.

Working blood—managing supply and distribution



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After all the carnage, the end came down to a single sheet of paper. There were no signatures, no treaty to bring lasting peace to Israel's northern border. There was just an "understanding" that did little more than put in writing a verbal 1989 cease-fire agreement. But it had taken a full week of high-powered diplomacy to stop the spiral of rocket attacks on Israel by Hizbullah fighters in south Lebanon and Israel's fierce retaliation. The 35-day conflict had produced a terribly lopsided roster of statistics: Israel had fired more than 14,000 shells and launched over 4,400 air raids. The Islamic militants of Hizbullah, in turn, estimated more than 3,000 Katyusha rockets. In Israel, the toll was 65 wounded and 23,000 displaced from their homes. Lebanon suffered at least 125 dead, 320 wounded, and nearly 500,000 forced to move. But when the firing stopped, battered Lebanon seemed destined to recede to its status as a mere subplot in the larger drama of a search for peace in the Middle East.

The ceasefire agreement reached late last week forbade Hizbullah from firing Katyushas



Political prisoners in Lebanese jails await a new treaty

Ending the pain

A ravaged Lebanon counts its losses after the ceasefire

into northern Israel and from Israel from targeting civilians in Lebanon. It also sets up a group to monitor violations and stops up calls for a larger peace settlement. "We have achieved the goal of our mission, an agreement to save lives and end the suffering of people on both sides of the Israeli-Lebanon border," said U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in Jerusalem, announcing the plan that took effect early on April 27.

But in Lebanon, piles of rubble rose where there were once houses. The main north-south coastal highway was pockmarked by shells from Israeli Jewish gunboats. Damage to roads, buildings and other installations amounted to tens of millions of dollars. While the Lebanese were clearly relieved that the guns had fallen silent, most were angry the latest agreement made no mention of a withdrawal of the Israeli troops who maintain a self-proclaimed autonomous zone in Lebanon. "The point is that south Lebanon is occupied by the Israelis," said Beirut sociologist Maza Zughbi. "That's why Hizbullah is attacking with Katyushas. If the Israelis leave, the conflict will be over." But Israel's goal lies in its determination



Christopher (left) with Pines, pact to 'save lives'

not to withdraw until a more permanent peace allows them the freedom to exist as an essential border zone.

Yet such a peace seemed of anything, less achievable than when Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Pines ordered the Congress of World Jewry on April 11. The bombing blitz hit south Lebanon, a nation of minorities, more than residents can ever remember. Many have begun to back the Hizbullah resistance, and many oppose Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri's ascent to Christopher's plan. "There is no point in going back to any village," said 45-year-old Ahmad Mukadani of Jibchil, near Nabatieh on the coast of the war zone. "We have been displaced because of Israeli attacks almost a dozen times since 1982 (when Israel invaded) and I don't think it will change if the Israelis get to stay in south Lebanon."

Even members of the Lebanese army admit they have been embittered by their loss of sovereignty. "Either we have war and we fight Israel," said Col. George Beish, "or we have peace and they withdraw from our land—this stuff in the middle is no longer acceptable." Another army officer, George Hinnel, fought against Muslim groups like Hizbullah with a veteran during the 15-year Lebanese civil war. He no longer. Hinnel, the 35-year-old son of Maronite Christians, has become an estranged ally of the Party of God. "Both the Lebanese army and the Syrian army should be

under a commander at Tel Aviv's Jaffa Center for Strategic Studies. "There is no reason why they can't co-exist in Hizbullah."

Even with Syria on board, the coalition took Christopher far longer to pull together than seemed likely after Israel shelled the Qana UN base on April 18, killing more than 100 refugees and shocking world opinion. Syria sources said President Hafez al-Assad was in an "uncompromising mood." He evidently believed that Israel's tactics launched the campaign in Lebanon to deprive him of the Hizbullah bargaining

HISTORIC SHIFTS FOR PEACE

Even as its 16-year war with Hizbullah was still raging at Israel's northern border, a 16-hour peace pact was breaking out across its southern frontier. In the dusty town of Gaza, members of the Palestine Liberation Organization's ruling council last week voted overwhelmingly to revise their founding charter and delete all clauses calling for the destruction of Israel. Afterwards, members voted to give PLO chairman Yassir Arafat a standing ovation. A day later, Israel's ruling Labour Party responded in kind. Its 1,000-strong central committee voted with a massive show of hands to end its long-time opposition to a Palestinian state.

The parallel announcements, capping the historic shifts in attitudes on both sides, were designed to clear the way for talks beginning May 4 on a permanent peace settlement between Israel and the Palestinians. "Our goal is to bring a comprehensive peace to the Middle East during the next four years," said Prime Minister Shimon Pines, officially kicking off his campaign for re-election on May 29.

How the moves would play among Israeli voters was a matter of debate. Although the Arafat announcement was groundbreaking, the longtime taboo against discussing Palestinian statehood had already been broken by other politicians and commentators. And while the party declaration also raised Labour's position on the return of the Golan Heights to Syria, it guaranteed a national

champion when stalled peace talks with Israel eventually resume. Assad also reportedly felt wounded by what he viewed as one-sided support from the United States for Israel and an attempt to bail out Pines in advance of the May 29 Israeli elections. As one leading Israeli diplomatic analyst put it, "Assad believes in permanent peace. He thinks that any compromise he makes is a loss for him and a gain for the other side. He doesn't understand the idea of 'win-win' diplomacy. That makes him such a difficult bargainer."

Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri admitted that he could do nothing against either Hizbullah's rocket attacks or Israel's retaliatory raids. Israel estimates the damage to Israel from the rocket attacks at \$10 million. Direct damage to Lebanon, he noted, was valued at some \$120 million. But the indirect cost was much higher. Ghassan Makhlouf, editor-in-chief of *Al Safir*, Lebanon's largest daily newspaper, cited lost jobs, abandoned crops in south Lebanon and the loss of confidence by many would-be investors from the Arab Gulf states and Europe. "Who wants to invest in a place that is always being shot up and bombed on?" Makhlouf asked. "It's not a place where you can do business."

Hizbullah may have won the hearts of Lebanon: like Maronite, but Israel got largely what it wanted on the diplomatic map, a stop to Katyusha attacks, with no restrictions on its own army in south Lebanon. That, the ruling Labour Party believed, was the least Syria needed in order to avoid defeat in the election. Lebanon may take years to recover, economically and psychologically. The Qana tragedy is remembered as every night, "these images will be with me for the rest of my life," said Nivola Mirza, an announcer at Future Television in Beirut. For others, perhaps, the image that lingered was of a small country, paralysed once again in a conflict it had little power to control.

MUSKAT SHIHAB in Beirut with JIM LEDGERMAN in Jerusalem

reformers on both sides—and intended that Jerusalem, once claimed by the Palestinians, was the eternal capital of Israel. Still, the opposition Likud was quick to jump on the new pact, saying Pines had effectively agreed to a Palestinian state before talks had even begun. The Labour platform, said Likud, "a general sale of national assets without getting anything in return."

Likud was in more of a bind over the PLO move than Benjamin Netanyahu, who called it "a positive step" and said he would soon be willing to meet with officials of Arafat's autonomous Palestinian Authority. But Netanyahu's response drew immediate fire for being too soft from another senior Likud leader, Benay Begin, headline son of former prime minister Menachem Begin. Comments on both sides of the Arab-Israeli divide began pouring in. One group of Israeli veterans of terrorism called Arafat's move "a fraud." The Islamic militant group Hamas called it "a trap" and vowed to continue its armed struggle against Israel. But for many Palestinians, it was simply time. Said Salah Tawil, a Bethlehem member of the Palestinian legislature: "It was hard to change a PLO covenant that was part of our history, our youth. But if we want to move forward, we have to look at the facts and respond to the future."

JIM LEDGERMAN in Jerusalem

The Communists come in from the cold

After 50 years, the left takes centre stage

Could cautious, mild-mannered Romano Prodi really be an Italian political leader? Italy's politics are so colorful, so chaotic, so unpredictably fast. This is a country that has elected a port star to parliament and had to ban cellular phones from the floor of the Chamber of Deputies. Silvio Berlusconi, Prodi's main opponent, campaigned mostly on television the week three networks), berating his vast army of rapt viewers while dodging questions about his own indictment for bribery. Prodi conducted his campaign from a bus. His slogan was "The little that We Must"—which isn't just catchy in Italian. He is an economist

professor, of all things. But perhaps it was time for safe, stolid leadership. On April 24, Italians signaled that they wanted the 56-year-old academic to be their next prime minister.



Prodi: tough choices

By a narrow but seemingly secure margin, Prodi's center-left coalition defeated media mogul Berlusconi's center-right group—and brought Italy to a turning point. Post-Second World War politics had spun on one main axis: the search for governing parties for a power-sharing alignment that would keep the Communists out of office. For 50 years, through 54 governments, they succeeded. Last week, the bespectacled professor finally brought the



Olive Tree supporters: no financial alarms

Communists in from the cold. In the so-called Olive Tree coalition, Prodi stood alone in the centre, the left is composed largely of reconstructed former Communists. And Prodi's majority will probably depend on the 35 unreconstructed members of the Communist Refoundation—a party of ideologically pure Marxists.

Yet as Olive Tree supporters jammed the piazzas in celebration, the sight of some Italians viciously waving the red-fagged hammer and sickle set off an alarm. The financial markets did not even shiver. The Dow hit a 16-month high against

the German mark, and the Italian stock market jumped 42 per cent the next day. There seemed to be a consensus that the reformed Communists are truly reformed, and that Prodi will keep Italy on its current path of deflation-cutting and political reform. Said Indro Montanelli, a leading Italian journalist: "It is the first time that the left is going into power, and I don't think it will squander this historic occasion lightly."

In the end, the traditional reluctance of this Catholic country to elect Communists

to government may have been overwhelmed by the Olive Tree's composed and competent style, a sharp contrast to Berlusconi's raucous persona. "He asked," were reportedly Prodi's first words to his main opponent, "do you have the kind of pedigree—study at Harvard and the London School of Economics—that bankers and industrialists love. As well, the Olive Tree includes Lamberto Dini, a smooth centrist central banker who became caretaker prime minister in early 1995 after Berlusconi's eight-month-old government collapsed under the weight of corruption, investigations and political infighting. "For the international markets, Dini represents the kind of technical competence Italy needs so much," said Prodi. A desperate Berlusconi, on the other hand, resorted to promises to slash the 32 per cent unemployment rate in half and balance the budget, all while cutting taxes.

It was a flawless platform. Italy's budget deficit amounts to a blasted 7.4 per cent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) 3.4 per cent. The government is lightly financed from among Italy's already high taxes any further to tackle budget overruns. Prodi is also committed to European monetary integration, in which the entry ticket is a three-per-cent deficit. "Only outside Europe is that," said Prodi after his victory, but Italy inside Europe faces deep spending cuts—and

the social pain that goes with them. Prodi waited last week that the mandate gave him a chance to govern for five uninterrupted years, allowing him time to undertake the needed reforms. But he still depends on the Communist Refoundation for his majority in Italy's lower house. And Refoundation Leader Fausto Bertinotti—a charismatic, outspoken politician in the true Italian mold—is a wild card. Last week, he remained cagey about his demands, letting Prodi try to form a government but warning that "his slogan depends on its capacity to compromise with us." That may be difficult. While Prodi pledges to rein in spending, Bertinotti's priority is to minimize the indexing of public service wages to inflation, currently 4.5 per cent.

Such obvious contradictions have already sent the Olive Tree in search of its other possible ally—Giuseppe Bossi's Northern League, which did better than expected at the polls. Bossi is another outspoken and unpredictable leader. His cause is the outright secession of northern Italy. Olive Tree politicians scented him out by suggesting Italy could become a federal state with more autonomy for the north, though no one knows if that will satisfy Bossi. "Italians want unity," was Prodi's own analysis of why he won, but the road ahead looks as wild as ever.

BRUCE WALLACE with NICHOLAS KRILLER on Rome



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A fatal phone call for Moscow's nemesis

In the end, a dangerous and erroneous worry—talking on the phone—proved fatal for Dzhokhar Dudayev late on the evening of April 21, the 35-year-old Chechen rebel leader pulled his Russian-built off-road vehicle into a field near the village of Gekda-Chu, 30 km southwest of Grozny, the Chechen capital. There, with his Russian-born wife Alkhanzhan, Dudayev prepared to accept an offer of a gesture of electronic defiance to the Russian forces that had sought his death or capture for 18 months using a satellite phone to communicate with the outside world from his war-torn homeland in the Caucasus.

But this time, the Russians were waiting for him. Pinned for several hours, Dudayev's phone was cut off a week earlier had led to nearly 100 of Moscow's soldiers dead, Russian intelligence operatives had been using electronic equipment to search for the signal from Dudayev's phone before he could finish his conversation—with an intermediary who was trying to arrange peace talks with the Kremlin—a Russian helicopter bombed in on the signal and fired an anti-aircraft missile towards the parked Niva. Dudayev's wife survived, but two of the captive leader's aides died, and a jagged piece of shrapnel penetrated deep into the back of Dudayev's head. According to his successor, Chechen rebel vice-president Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, Dudayev died soon afterwards in the arms of his bodyguards—but not before urging his followers to keep fighting for Chechnya's independence from Russia.

The news surprised Chechens and Russians alike. In Moscow, government officials insisted for days that they had no definitive proof of the rebel leader's death—even as they debated its effect on a long-running conflict that has claimed 30,000 lives. Shortly before the UN Human Rights Commission had condemned Moscow's military action in Chechnya as "a disproportionate use of force that violates international law," Russian President Boris Yeltsin said Dudayev's violent and re-

sented an obstacle to peace. Even so, he soberly warned Russians that in the short term the slaying could spark fresh terrorist attacks against Russian cities. Yeltsin has admitted that his hopes of reelection in June may hang on resolution of the Chechen conflict.

Russian troops in battered Grozny did nothing to hide their feelings about Du-

The death of a rebel clouds peace prospects



Russian forces in Grozny, Dudayev (above), commander



Russian forces in Grozny, Dudayev (above), commander

had good reason to hate the Russians that year. His family was moved to Kazakhstan for 13 years as part of a mass deportation of Chechens by dictator Josef Stalin on suspicion that they collaborated with invading Nazi forces. But Dudayev accepted the Soviet system, embarking on a military career in which he rose to become an air force major-general and commander of a nuclear-bomber base in Tura, Russia. There, he is still remembered as the man who was in 1990 indicted as carrying out Khrushchev's orders intended to suppress the fermenting Baltic independence movements. Soon afterwards, he returned to Chechnya, threw in his lot with the nationalists and acted control of the seceding republic. After winning its presidency in a 1991 election, Dudayev refused to recognize the emboldened but inexperienced Boris Yeltsin's independence for the 1.8-million Chechens.

Tensions mounted with the central government, and a full eight months before three Russian armored columns marched into Chechnya in December, 1994. Dudayev predicted the tragedy that would unfold. "They will invade," he told Moscovian in an interview held in the now-demolished "presidential palace" in Grozny. "And if they want to kill me, it is only a matter of time." He was right.

Yeltsin because the focus of international

MALCOLM GIBBY is in Moscow



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BOMBS IN GEORGIA...

U.S. federal agents uncovered a bomb-making factory in west Georgia, prompting a security alert in Atlanta, site of this summer's Olympic Games. Agents arrested two members of a right-wing militia and seized components for pipe bombs. But authorities denied reports that the pair planned to disrupt Olympic preparations.

...AND LONDON

Police found a massive array of explosives under London's Hammersmith Bridge after the Irish Republican Army issued a coded warning. But the bombs failed to go off due to a technical fault. Officials said the explosives' destructive power meant that the IRA's resumed bombing campaign was far more than symbolic.

SUBWAY TRIAL IN TOKYO...

Prosecutors painted the doomsday cult accused of murdering last year's Tokyo subway sarin-gas attack as a self-styled living god who taught the killing was sacred to save souls. They said Supreme Tect Sect leader Shoko Asahara planned the attack, which killed 11 and sickened thousands, to divert police from raiding the cult. Asahara refused to enter a plea at the opening of what was dubbed Japan's "trial of the century" as it expected to last several years.

...AND NEW YORK CITY

A jury awarded \$58 million in damages to a man shot at by Bernhard Goetz in a notorious 1984 encounter on the New York subway. Goetz said David Gabry and three other black youths were trying to mug him when he shot and wounded all four, leaving Gabry paralyzed and mortally accosted. They said they were only peeping. On the stand, Goetz made a series of racially charged statements that his lawyer admitted "damaged him irretrievably." Goetz has little money, but under the law Gabry could collect 10 per cent of his earnings for the next 20 years.

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A BOSNIAN 'WAR' CLAIM

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic is accused multiple times of trying to provoke war by encouraging refugees to return to their homes in Serb-controlled districts. But he claims he tried to enter Serb areas. UN officials said they had made little progress in helping hundreds of thousands of refugees go home.



Protesters tangle with riot police outside the presidential palace in Azerbaijan. (AP Wirephoto)

COUP FURY: Paramilitary poured into the streets of their capital, Azerbaijan, to protest a short-lived deal with a rebel general. After army commander Gen. Liva Oviedo, 52, defied an order to retire and held up in his barracks, coup runners swept the city. Analysts said he had the support of the army and could win a firefight. President Juan Carlos Wazmury ordered the two-day standoff by offering Oviedo the post of defense minister. But the fierce public backlash led Wazmury to withdraw the offer. Oviedo agreed, and vowed to run for president in the next election. Oviedo played a key role in the 1989 coup that brought down Gen. Alfredo Stroessner's 34-year dictatorship.

Bear hugs for Yeltsin in China

China welcomed Russian President Boris Yeltsin with open arms—literally—as a visit signalling closer co-operation between the two neighbouring giants. As they met outside Beijing's Great Hall of the People, dishevelled Chinese President Jiang Zemin reportedly greeted the towering Yeltsin in the bear hugs that were famously among when Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev visited Chairman Mao Tse-tung in 1956, at the time of the Sino-Soviet split. Yeltsin said that relations had reached their warmest level since the end of 1920, when the alliance between the two Communist powers was at its height.

But the starburst was long on image and short on substance. The two presidents vowed

to create a "strategic partnership" and warned the West not to try to dominate the post-Cold War world. They also announced they would set up a telephone hotline between their offices. Diplomats, however, questioned whether their economic or military co-operation would advance by much, given the difficulties of implementing earlier agreements. Beijing seemed loath to send a message to Washington, with which relations are strained. Yeltsin clearly had an eye on his campaign for re-election. In Shanghai, he was asked to compare his Russian Communist party rivals and China's market-oriented reformers. "Our Communists are honest," he said, "and [Chinese] Communists are pragmatic."

Finally, the U.S. government gets its budget

After months of haggling and two government shutdowns, the U.S. Congress finally passed the 1996 federal budget. The \$217-billion measure, signed into law by President Bill Clinton, funds the vast American bureaucracy until Sept. 30. Much of the government was forced to close in November and again in December when funding ran out; agreements had kept going since then with temporary spending bills. The 16-month struggle was the most protracted in history. Clinton and congressional leaders are still at odds over proposals to balance the deficit under budget within seven years. But analysts believe decisive new policies will probably shut chances of an agreement.

Attention, shoppers



Bachand at Canadian Tire store at Newmarket, Ont., shops at Wal-Mart (right) a customer's viewpoint

Wal-Mart's arrival has forced retailers to focus on customers

are holding their own—proving that it is possible to take on the American giant and prosper.

When Wal-Mart announced in January, 1994, that it was coming to Canada by purchasing 130 Woolco outlets, the stock market was quick to render its verdict. Shares in Sears Canada, Canadian Tire and Hudson's Bay Co.—which owns Zellers—fell as much as 12 per cent in a single day. Analysts predicted that the arrival of Bentonville, Ark.-based Wal-Mart would force many other stores out of business and drive prices to rock-bottom levels. "Not since Laura Secord brought warning of an American invasion in 1813 has the news of an intruder been met with such hand-errand," Peter Senist, a Toronto advertising executive, wrote shortly after Wal-Mart's Canadian debut. He added, ominously, that "the shadow of Wal-Mart will touch us all."

The past two years have been undeniably painful for retailers. The three biggest discount chains—Zellers, Wal-Mart and K-Mart—still have some cash on hand. And all of the major players in the discount category have experimented with new strategies—launching 100-plus-style advertising campaigns, slashing prices and reworking stores to hold market share and remain profitable. All that has happened against a backdrop of high unemployment, weak consumer confidence and slow sales.

Despite those problems, there have been successes. Profits at Canadian Tire—the 10-day store for the do-it-yourselfer, with its Rynga and the handy money—jumped 4.1 per cent in 1995 to \$221.8 million, while sales rose to \$3.8 billion from \$3.5 billion in 1994. And for firms trying to avoid a fight with Wal-Mart, Canadian Tire this spring is taking direct aim at the U.S. chain's long-standing claim of "everyday low prices" in a new series of television ads. Canadian Tire's new slogan, "Everybody low prices made better."

One obvious difference between Canadian Tire and its competitors is that the vast majority of its 424 stores are independently owned. Two years ago, many observers saw that as a drawback, arguing that the decentralized nature of the company's operations

would make it more difficult for head office to introduce new strategies. In hindsight, though, some analysts say that Canadian Tire's system of locally owned stores has been a strength. "You have a group of people who have their entire life savings at risk," says Richard Talbot, managing director of Thomson Canada Inc. in Montreal. "That galvanizes people to do something, so they climb the wagon and pulled together as a team. Generally, Canadian Tire has done better than many thought it could."

Canadian Tire has always been somewhat of a retail maverick since Lord's Alder and John Biles opened their first store in 1922, by concentrating on auto parts and hardware rather than competing with department stores such as Eaton's. The company carved out an early niche for itself. That specialized approach is a key element in the reason that Bachand and his team of executives and dealers developed in 1993, shortly after the new CEO arrived at Canada. The strategy aims to improve the level of service, match competitors' prices and cut costs in advertising, distribution and warehousing. "Customers today have limited budgets and tremendous demands on their time," Bachand says. "When they go shopping, they're on a mission." The goal, he adds, is to make it easy for consumers to get into a store, find what they want and get

out as quickly as possible. In line with that, Canadian Tire has contracted more than \$400 million over three years to build 80 new stores, such as the one that opened last month in Newmarket, Ont. The 52,000-square-foot operation features fresh-cut flowers, a doghouse shop and 17 auto service bays. The new store also boasts winter auto and staff members equipped with portable phones to answer customer inquiries.

At the same time, the company has made several broader changes to attract customers. Since the 1980s, Canadian Tire stores in Central and Eastern Canada have issued bonus coupons—Canadian Tire money—for cash purchases. Last November, the company extended the program nationwide. The chain also introduced a "hassle-free" warranty and a guarantee to match prices from other stores—as a result of which the company no longer publishes prices for many of the items in its catalogue. "Everybody says they're the lowest price, but that's impossible," says Bachand. "One way to deal with it is to say, 'OK, we may be wrong occasionally, but we'll make it right.'"

It is an approach that analysts have been quick to applaud. "They got some enlightened leadership, they went back to their strengths and they were able to re-shoot their Canadian culture and approach," says retail consultant John Torella of J. C. Williams Group in Toronto. "They got the wake-up call when Wal-Mart arrived, and they rose to the occasion. Contrast that to Zellers and K-Mart—they didn't do as well."

Of the major discount chains, K-Mart is clearly in the worst shape. The company's U.S. parent has posted 11 straight quarters of losses, in part because of problems with a new computerized inventory system. More important, K-Mart has failed to distinguish itself from its two closest U.S. rivals, Wal-Mart and Target Corp. of Minneapolis. The company's Canadian head, Michael Lynch—who replaced Donald Beaumont as president and chief executive officer in January—announced last month that the company has hired a liquidator to dispose of \$190 million in old stock. Industry watchers note that as an attempt to clean up the company and make it more attractive to potential purchasers—such as Sears Canada, Target and Zellers—the K-Mart name will disappear from Canada by the end of the year.

Zellers, the traditional leader in the Canadian discount department-store business, has also been shaken by Wal-Mart. Heavy spending on advertising has helped Zellers retain its 45-per-cent share of the market, but earnings have dropped precipitously. Last month, the company posted a 12-cent-per-share fourth-quarter operating profit of \$20.9 million from \$14 million a year earlier. On the same day, the chain announced the resignation of president Paul Walters, a replacement has yet to be named. In a move to cut costs, Zellers also plans to close its hand office in Montreal and shift operations to the Toronto headquarters of The Bay. "Zellers are the big loser in all of this," says Jurelin. "The arrival of Wal-Mart has had a direct impact on them."

In fact, Wal-Mart itself is finding it tough slopping in the depressed retail business. For the first time since 1970, the company's worldwide operations suffered a quarterly net profit decline in the

STORE WARS

LOCATIONS	CANADIAN TIRE 424	WAL-MART 133	ZELLERS 300	K-MART 127
1995 SALES	\$3.7 billion	\$2.7 billion	\$2.4 billion	\$1.2 billion
CUSTOMERS	51% male/ 49% female	47% male/ 53% female	44% male/ 56% female	44% male/ 56% female
AVERAGE HOUSE- HOLD INCOME	\$52,730	\$47,400	\$44,900	\$47,700
SLOGAN	"Everyday low prices made better"	"Where every day costs less"	"The lowest price is the lowest price"	"The lowest price is the K-Mart price"

BY DAVID ESTOK

Nothing from aisle to aisle in a newly opened Canadian Tire store in Newmarket, Ont., Stephen Bachand looks like a politician in mid-campaign. The U.S.-born businessman pumps hands with employees, shows off the building's features and passionately justifies about the "New Tire." Suddenly, in the middle of a conversation about the store's layout, the president and chief executive of one of Canada's most powerful retail empires wheels around to confront a beleaguered grey-haired man in a hockey jacket.

"Can I help you?" asks Bachand, plainly concerned that none of the store's employees has yet come to the customer's assistance.

"Where do I find the Versace?"
"In this store, I'm not sure. But don't worry—I'll get someone who does," says Bachand, before marching off to find a salesclerk. For Bachand, a hard-driving veteran of 30 years in the U.S. retail trade, paying close attention to customers is the key to survival in the cutthroat 1990s. Almost two years have passed since the world's largest retailer, Wal-Mart, entered Canada and changed the retail industry forever. Slarger retailers have brought aggressive price-cutting, increased choice and demands for better service. Some Canadian chains, including Zellers and K-Mart, have struggled. But others, particularly Canadian Tire,

three months ending Jan. 31, 1996. And some analysts say that Wal-Mart appears disappointed by its performance so far in Canada, noting that the chain recently rejected its Canadian president, Charles C. Pinner. Wal-Mart Canada spokesman Ed Gould says the new president is spending his first 90 days in Canada trying to meet employees and learn about the Canadian division. But others speculate that Wal-Mart is preparing to increase its efforts to gain Canadian market share. "Wal-Mart is a hard-core operation," says Ken Stone, an Iowa State University economics professor and a leading authority on the company. "They demand the best results."

Gould, however, says the company's Canadian operations have exceeded expectations. He adds that Wal-Mart now claims 40 per cent of the discount retail share of Canada's dollar stores, up from 30 per cent just two years ago. And Talbot says that Wal-Mart's largest retailer has done so excellent job "When you think about all the risks and problems they could have had, it is remarkable that they have hit very few."

He and others say Wal-Mart's biggest asset has been its reach. Canadian retailers have the importance of customer service. In the past, says Ed Struygel of Toronto-based Rabus Consultants, Canadian discount chains rarely seemed to care about pleasing customers. Recent surveys suggest that customer satisfaction with many of the chains has improved. And that's what shoppers still believe service is better in the United States.

In some areas, though, consumers still seem to prefer a traditional Canadian approach. Last year, at its first Wal-Mart store in Canada, the chain's advertising firm at Zellerbach Club 2 points and Canadian Tire money. Canadian Tire's U.S.-born senior vice-president of marketing, Wayne Sides, decided to fight back. He ordered the company's advertising agency to make sure the ads were convincing the chain's critics. "The agency developed a 30-second spot I thought was dynamite," Sides says. "The ad really stuck to the competition, and it was someone with over 35 years of marketing experience in the United States. I thought it would be great."

But the more Wal-Mart never made it to air. When the agency showed the ad to a select group of customers, they hated it. "So could see a number of people in the room sit bolt upright in their seats," Sides recalls. "After it was over, several of them said, 'You can't do this.'"

Attacking the competition, it seems, just is not the Canadian way. □



The Bottom Line

A mother lode of cash

If there is one chief executive in Canada who can strut into his annual meeting with confidence this year, it's David Walsh. On May 10 in Calgary, he's not likely to face too many competing shareholders—despite the fact that he has raised some a whopping \$10 million in compensation last year. Walsh is the founder, promoter and chief executive of the newsgenetary junky producer, Bre-X Minerals. As Bre-X stock has soared from \$10 to \$140 in the past year—up 900 per cent—Walsh's net worth has grown by more than \$400 per cent—his net worth is now \$140 million. What's got it, how much they've got and how much they need for a

One thing that is working in favor of mining issues—among golds and base metals alike—is strong commodity prices. Another is the fairly tight market. North American interest rates are expected to dip even lower than their current levels, and there are ever-growing words of captive cash in Canada looking for a more enticing return on investment.

Since most Canadian mining companies have broad international bases in their exploration and development programs, pension fund managers can readily sidestep the 30-per-cent foreign-investor rule for investment portfolios. While purchasing shares that are technically Canadian, they can automate access to projects in Chile, Indonesia and other far-flung, resource-rich countries.

In other resource sectors, by contrast, the focus remains predominantly local. Some Canadian oil-and-gas producers have wandered abroad, but, for the most part, the industry is still successfully picking holes in the West.

Canadian Sedimentary Basin. Rarely, companies also tend to be headquartered, given the rather muted nature of their raw material supplies.

But Canada's mining reserves—with the spectacular exception of surprise goldfields like the Viceroy's Bay—have already been explored. That fact, combined with higher domestic labor and production costs, here steadily produced Canada's mining companies to become more aggressive in the international arena. That's given money managers in Canada ample time to become educated about their stocks—and to provide a solid demand for a steady supply of new issues and juicy promotions.

Canada is now the centre of the international capital market for mining companies



BUSINESS

On the takeover trail

Why Laidlaw dominates the school-bus industry

To many investors, Michael DeGroote was a visionary in the 1960s, he turned Laidlaw Inc., which specialized in hauling students to school and waste to garbage dumps, into one of Canada's hottest companies. DeGroote left the Burlington, Ontario-based firm in 1990, but his successors have remained faithful to his strategy of pursuing rapid growth by swallowing up competitors. In its fourth major buyout since January, 1995, Laidlaw last week announced a bid to take over Scott's Hospitality Ltd. of Toronto. Scott's is best known for its fast-food operations, but it was the company's fleet of 4,000 school buses that Laidlaw coveted. Added to the 30,000 buses that Laidlaw already operates, the acquisition would give the company 33 per cent of the North American market for privately run school-bus services. And additional takeovers may follow. Declares Laidlaw president James Bellack: "We are always looking for acquisitions."

Serving up fast food, however, is not among Bellack's plans. Laidlaw intends to offset the \$63.5-million purchase price by selling Scott's food divisions—including more than 400 Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise outlets—to Vancouver-based A&W Food Services of Canada Inc. for \$244 million. It also plans to sell Scott's pizza and Chinese food divisions. Before the deal goes ahead, the courts will have to de-

termine whether Pepsi-Cola Canada Ltd., which owns KFC Canada, has a right of first refusal on Scott's shares. But analysts expect that Laidlaw will ultimately prevail, leaving the company in control of Scott's transportation operations, including about 4,000 school buses in four U.S. states and another 2,000 in Ontario.

Laidlaw currently operates nearly 80 per cent of the school-bus fleet in the United States. And



its drive to become the dominant player in the North American school-bus industry comes at an opportune time, as the United States, cash-strapped school boards are trying to save money by privatizing their bus operations. In fact, Laidlaw's strong growth in the sector is the major reason why the company's revenues have grown from \$2.9 billion in 1994, to \$3.4 billion in 1995 and a projected \$4.2 billion this year.

The decision to acquire Scott's was an integral part of Bellack's plan to focus on Laidlaw's traditional strengths. To bolster its transport operations, Laidlaw paid \$280 million last year for Magflow Contract Services Inc. of Kansas City, Mo., which operated 7,600 school buses throughout the U.S. Midwest. And in October, Bellack announced a \$455-million takeover of Canadian Inc. of Seattle, Wash., making Laidlaw the country's largest air balance company with almost 1,000 vehicles in 23 states.

Laidlaw still has plenty of room to expand. David McCredie, a transportation analyst at Movement Capital Inc. of Toronto, says that publicly owned school-bus fleets now account for about 70 per cent of all school buses operating in the United States. Last year, a study in Springfield, Ohio, found that after Laidlaw took over the area's school bus system, costs fell by 15 per cent. "Both because of lower wages and because Laidlaw is able to negotiate favorable insurance rates and contracts for replacement parts. Laidlaw is also large enough to afford newer vehicles while ensuring that drivers are trained properly." They would not be dominant, says Ted Larkin, an analyst at Baring Warburg Inc. in Toronto. "If they did not have an enviable safety record."

Laidlaw's advance into the United States, however, has not been without controversy. Last March, 250 school-bus drivers in Seattle went on strike after Laidlaw refused to give them better benefits. Some have commented that the lack of a union plan was lowering driver morale and making accidents more likely. Laidlaw stood its ground and the strike ended after 13 days. In fact, many of Laidlaw's drivers are referred and already have pensions. "You can't see it this far in 1996," said Bruce D. Gray, Jr., of Burlington, Ont., who has worked for Laidlaw since 1987 and earns \$9 an hour for long-haul drivers "that I just love driving."

The trend to privatization has also created opportunities for Laidlaw's U.S. units. In fact, in 1995, the company purchased 17 small ambulance firms and folded them into its McTrust division, which has seen revenues jump from \$171 million in 1994 to a projected \$282 million this year. Laidlaw's waste operations are growing more slowly, with revenues rising to reach \$2.2 billion in 1996, compared with \$1.9 billion in 1995. Bellack says he hopes to improve those results by focusing on waste operations in which the company not only picks up the garbage but also controls the dump and any related recycling activities. And if that fails, the Laidlaw president can always pull out DeGroote's playbook and hit the takeover again.

The faster life moves, the more you'll appreciate a Mazda 626 Cronos V-6.



Mazda's 626 Cronos with the performance-driven 180 horsepower, 2.5-litre 24-valve DOHC V-6 puts a whole new spin on the term 'family sedan'. Marry that power to our sophisticated Twin Trapezoidal Links rear suspension, stabilizer bars, rack-and-pinion power-assisted steering and front wheel drive and you'll experience Mazda's passion for the road first hand. What's more,



the 626 Cronos boasts the most interior room in its class, and the best frontal crash test results* versus 4-door Camry, Accord and Altima. The 626 Cronos V-6, The family sedan that'll turn your crank.

*Test results from the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Association. The 626 Cronos also available with a 4-cylinder engine.

Business NOTES

FORD RECALLS VEHICLES

In the biggest auto recall in history, the Ford Motor Co. is asking 8.7 million North American car owners to bring their vehicles to dealerships so the company can replace faulty ignition switches. In Canada, owners have reported more than 260 cases of stalls or fire from the switches, causing minor injuries to some people. The recall affects 265,900 Canadian vehicles built between 1988 and 1993.

MAGNA PLOTS EXPANSION

Canada's biggest automotive parts manufacturer, Magna International Inc., has announced plans to build a major new factory in St. Thomas, Ont. The plant, which will employ 500 people when operations begin in 1995, will produce frames for General Motors pickups and sport utility vehicles. Magna chose the Ontario site over several U.S. locations.

COMPUTER FRAUD

The increasing use of business computers has created more opportunities for fraud, a new study says. More than 75 per cent of the companies surveyed by KPMG, a management consulting firm, said that the use of computers has made it harder to detect employee fraud. Other factors cited as causes of fraud include a decline in employee loyalty and poor economic conditions. Despite that, the study says that the cost of reported fraud actually declined in 1995 to \$39 million, from \$121 million a year earlier.

TILDEN BUYS TIME

Canada's second-biggest car retail company is searching for a cash infusion or savvy owners. The move follows an Ontario court ruling that gave Toronto-based Tilden Corp. Inc. until August to get its financial affairs in order. Tilden, which employs 1,500 people, was granted protection under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act after a group of car dealers tried to recover \$22 million Tilden owed them for past purchases of trucks and cars.

INFLATION EDGES UP

The annual inflation rate rose slightly to 5.4 per cent in March from 5.2 per cent a month earlier, Statistics Canada says. Even so, the inflation rate remains well below its 1980 average of 8.1 per cent. Prices rose for new cars, gasoline, insurance and air travel, but fell for new housing, computer equipment, fresh vegetables and beef.



Black preparing to go up against Packer and Murdoch

Expanding the empire

For the second time in a year, Canadian media mogul Black is maneuvering to buy the remaining 36 per cent of Telegraph PLC he does not already own. Black's Chicago-based company, Hollinger International Inc., has bid more than \$570 million to acquire the remaining shares in Telegraph, which owns Britain's largest broadsheet newspaper. The deal would give Black access to *The Daily Telegraph's* substan-

tial cash flow, worth an estimated \$60 million a year, and thereby make it easier for him to borrow money for future media takeovers.

If the Telegraph deal goes ahead, Black's next priority will likely be a bid to win control of John Fairfax Holdings Ltd., Australia's biggest and most profitable newspaper company. Black already owns 28.9 per cent of Fairfax, which runs that country's three biggest newspapers, but is prohibited under foreign ownership rules from raising his stake beyond 25 per cent.

The regulations are currently being reviewed by Australia's Liberal government. In the past, Black has threatened to sell his interest in Fairfax unless the foreign-ownership restrictions are loosened to allow him to seek a controlling position in the company. Any such move, however, would likely set the stage for a bidding war between Black and two other Australian-based media magnates who hold minority interests in Fairfax, Kerry Packer and Rupert Murdoch. Packer holds a 16-per-cent interest while Murdoch owns five per cent of the company.

TAKEOVER

Battle for CFCF

Murdoch-head Cognito Media Inc. is keeping its eye tight for control of CFCF Inc., an Ottawa CFCF target shareholder has already paid, at its status to rival Cognito's bid. Cognito raised the stakes in the six-month takeover battle by offering \$23 million, or \$372.6 million, in cash and stock for CFCF, one of Canada's largest broadcasting and cable companies. Murdoch had earlier offered \$21.50 a share in cash, or 1367 million. Murdoch heads the upper hand in the takeover battle, however, since CFCF's latest shareholders, the Public Service Loan, agreed to transfer 1.5 million multiple voting shares to Murdoch for \$40.8 million. Cognito and a New York City brokerage firm, Oppenheimer & Co. Inc., which owns almost 10 per cent of CFCF, have entered the contest agreement and may challenge it in court. CFCF owns several television stations and cable operations in Quebec and Ontario.

Blue Jays on the block

Canada's second-biggest brewer, John Labatt Ltd., hopes to find a buyer within three months for its interests in the Toronto Blue Jays baseball club and Toronto's Sky-Dome sports complex. Labatt president Russ Powell says the company wants to retain the marketing rights to the Jays and Sky-Dome while selling its financial stakes. Investors say that Labatt, which owns 42 per cent of Sky-

SkyDome open for bid

Dome, has been talking to several potential local purchasers and now wants to pressure them to make an offer by the summer. Analysts believe the market value of both the team and the stadium has declined in the past two years because of a sharp drop in attendance at Blue Jays games. Last year, Europe's fourth-largest brewer, InBeers SA of Brussels, purchased Labatt for \$4 billion.

Kids, cash and capitalism

Terry LaCorde is seldom at a loss for words. But two years ago, her daughter Jennifer, then 8, was watching a TV report on retirement savings when she asked what RRSPs were and why there would one day be no more money left in the Canada Pension Plan. "I answered her as simply as I could," says LaCorde, 38. "And I realized then that there was a need for kids of all ages to learn about money."

An increasing number of parents and financial experts agree. In the past few years, financial seminars, newsletters and mutual funds aimed at children have sprung up across the continent. LaCorde, 38, now runs workshops for children in Burlington, Ont. "Thirty years ago, we had more or less Betty Crocker than financial books," she says. "Whether it's an inheritance insurance cheque or an inheritance, having the skills to manage your money is important."

Tom McCutcheon, 17, decided three years ago that it was time to take control of his finances. Having saved \$2,000 from a Vancouver paper route, he approached his parents for advice. His father, a self-proclaimed controller, gave him a subscription to *The Young Investor* (Pitt, published by the investment firm Cohan Florsheim). "I read the papers, read the newsletter and occasionally invest my money," says McCutcheon. Two years ago, he bought nine shares in Canserv, a hockey equipment dealer, and doubled his investment.

Young investor programs are also gaining in popularity among the big banks. Most now have special children's accounts that offer higher interest rates and allow young savers to put their choice of CIBC or Scotia funds to work. Last fall, Lily Salerno of Richmond Hill, Ont., began giving her six-year-old son, Peter, a dollar a week after he threw a tantrum in a local store over a toy shark. Now, it is up to Peter to decide whether to use the money or buy his own toys. "Soon, the cash register started going off in his head," Salerno says. "Her open a child's account and became a real saver."

One of the more unusual products comes from a Chicago-based brokerage house, Stock Row & Partners. In 1994, the firm launched its Young Investor Fund, a



Four Salerno making a bank deposit with younger sister Madeline: saving a dollar a week

mutual fund whose average investor is nine years old. Each child receives a quarterly newsletter, *Dollar Digest*, which provides information on the stocks held in the fund—companies such as Disney, Coca-Cola and Wrigley. The chosen year's instructor. In 1995, the first fall year, the fund raised \$94 million from investors and achieved a 40 per cent return.

Although such funds are not offered in Canada, it is only a matter of time before they arrive. Not far, the CIBC plans to introduce workshops and other seminars specifically aimed at kids. And last year, TD General Investor Services began a nationwide stock contest for teenagers with a \$1,500 first prize. The students are to maximize their return on a fictional \$800,000 portfolio by investing in Canadian stocks.

Last fall, a teen from Roselle Central High School in Roselle, N.J., participated in TD's stock challenge and saw his fictional \$800,000 grow 38 per cent in one month. By picking companies with a Newfoundland connection, they came across Diamond Fields Resources Inc., one of the year's hottest performers. "When we started, these kids didn't know the stock market from a hole in the wall," says Paul Stacey, the school's economics teacher. "Now, some kids have invested their own assets in the market." Some young investors clearly cannot wait to get out into the real world.

JILLIE COHEN

YOUNG READING



Money Book for Kids and Teens by Elaine Wyatt and Stan Hendon (Corwin House Books, \$14.95)

Money Book for College & Parents' Guide to Managing Your Children's Life by Mark S. Goadley (HyperBooks, \$35)

My Money Plans to Make 90 Ways to Give Economic Power to Girls by John Goadley (HyperBooks, \$15.75)

FORECAST: VACATION TRAVEL. Discouraged by the low value of the dollar and burdened with record levels of debt, more vacationers are planning to remain in Canada this summer. The Conference Board of Canada, an Ottawa-based forecasting agency, expects that Canadians will make a total of 3.1 million trips to the United States and 1.8 million trips overseas—a marginal increase over 1995.

Profiting from a borrower's market

While the real estate market is still sluggish in many regions, there is some good news for homeowners. Mortgage lenders are more determined than ever to attract business, and they're willing to pay for the privilege—either by lowering their rates or by paying rebates to customers who switch from other lenders.

Despite the dismal state of most economies, experts say it is still important to shop for the best mortgage. "Even though they may not advertise a half-point cut from the posted rate, a lot of institutions will give it to you if you ask," says Doug Gray, a Vancouver real estate lawyer and author.

Gray also advises consumers to read the fine print because some lenders do not allow cash rebates to be combined with other provisions or rate discounts. Most home buyers can get the equivalent of a \$500 to \$1,000 rebate simply by negotiating with the lender to waive various option charges, including legal, appraisal and mortgage transfer fees. And anyone receiving a mortgage should be aware that the lender qualifies any renewal fees.

For long-term savings, Gray says consumers should opt for a flexible payment schedule. Some institutions allow weekly

payments or double-payment options—with the second payment going directly to pay down principal. These options can save thousands of dollars over the life of a mortgage—a good deal in anyone's book.

ON THE HOUSE

NATIONAL TRUST

- Mortgages of \$50,000 or more, for terms of between three and five years, qualify for one-half per cent discount from posted rates
- Up to \$500 cash back for borrowers who switch from another lender

CANADA TRUST

- Customers who keep their mortgages with the bank compare for two years receive rebates equal to one per cent of the mortgage principal

TORONTO-DOMINION BANK

- Cash rebates equal to three months' interest, to a maximum of \$1,000, for homeowners who arrange five-year mortgages



A lakeview about caving can make sense

Away from it all

Across Canada, cottage lovers are once again touting down the days to summer. Those who dream of getting the annual vacation in the countryside face a difficult choice: should they rent or buy? Cottage rentals have become increasingly popular in recent years, but some demographic experts say it often makes sense to buy.

One advantage of renting is that it allows people to sample cottage life in different locations. It is also relatively affordable. Cottage rentals generally run from about \$600 to \$1,200 a week depending on location and amenities—about at the upper end of the market can include city-style perks like in-

creases and hot tubs. Buying a summer getaway, in contrast, means monthly mortgage payments, taxes, insurance and regular upkeep. "If people are just looking for a couple or few weeks of vacation, then it's probably cheaper in the long run to rent," says Warren Belliveau, a Toronto-based financial planner.

On the other hand, University of Toronto economics professor David Foell says that cottages are becoming sound long-term investments. He sees an increasing demand for country getaways from baby boomers who are now in their late 50s and 60s. "The front end of the baby boomers, born in 1947, are entering the age where they want less hassle and more peace and quiet," says Foell, a noted demographic and author of the coming book, *Boys, Buds and Bobs*.

Foell suggests buying a waterfront property or a retreat with a lot of acreage to ensure privacy. The best investment is probably not a rustic cottage with a crumbly outboard, but neither a well-equipped getaway that can function as a second home. "It doesn't have to be as perfect as a downtown or suburban home," he says, "but it has to have amenities like a dishwasher and it probably needs a better office." Getting away from it all was never like this.



Vancouver: the view is explosive

Urban roulette

Most people know that Vancouver Island and Toronto are Canada's most desirable cities, but by a vast margin. Rasmussen Associates, a Toronto-based management consulting firm, recently calculated the annual cost of living in nine major cities for a middle-class family of four, living in a 1,600-square-foot suburban home and owning two cars. The totals include goods and services typical for the family's size and location, as well as federal and provincial taxes.

Vancouver	\$51,500
Toronto	\$61,600
Ottawa	\$54,500
Montreal	\$54,450
Calgary	\$52,180
Regina	\$62,130
Winnipeg	\$51,250
Saskatoon	\$51,240
Edmonton	\$50,720

Sticker shock

Price is the number 1 factor for consumers planning to buy their next car purchase, the Canadian Automobile Association says. Every year, the CAA surveys motorists and asks them to pick the three most important considerations in choosing a vehicle. Five years ago, the most common answer was reliability, but safety then took the crown as the number one importance. CAA reminds that hard says more car buyers now take reliability more or less for granted. The percentage of respondents who indicated each factor is the top 3.



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Peter C. Newman

Desperately seeking new Voisey's Bays

Not since the Spanish adventurer Francisco Pizarro and the conquistadors who followed plundered South America for gold has there been a rush like this one. Mining companies, mostly from Canada, are racing to claim the continent's untold mineral treasures and their success is changing the face of the Canadian mining industry.

Last week at St. Barthelemy, Fla., a convention with the bloodiest "investing in the Americas 1995" started into a feeding frenzy, as brokers and more operators chased one another down in hotel corridors, making deals. No one can guess how much money changed hands, but future prospects seem unlimited. According to one estimate, some \$24 billion will be invested in developing mineral deposits in the two dozen countries of Latin America during the next four years. About half the \$2.7 billion spent in the past five years has come from Canadian sources. In 1995, according to the Multilateral Metals Economics Group, Canada's mining industry spent 62 per cent of its exploration budgets in those countries, and this year the total will run higher.

Pioneered by Yorkton Securities of Vancouver, which established an office in Santiago, Chile, in 1990, the financing of South American exploration has developed into a play as dramatic as the Klondike gold rush. The Toronto-based giant oilfields and senior barracudas from Chile, Argentina, Peru and Ecuador, among other nations, a chance to stress that they're open for business. Most local mining laws have been liberalized, allowing foreign capital to flow in and out unimpeded, giving the industry special tax incentives and removing previous domestic restrictions from environmental regulations.

The continent's gold production in 1995 was 20-per-cent higher than the previous year and is expected to nearly double in 1996. One of the important factors behind the current emphasis on Latin America is that before the government regulatory reforms took place, few Canadian dollars were being spent there. The United States is the focus in Venezuela, which continues to suffer from old-fashioned inflation, a Single B (below the normal investment grade) international credit rating and, until recently, the imposition of strict exchange controls.

Chile leads the way. Already the world's largest source of copper, it will soon be numbered among the top 10 gold producers. Exploited by outsiders since the 1940s, in the early 1970s, when the Chilean copper went to nationalistic all stages. In 1980, the state body removed itself and guaranteed non-discriminatory treatment to foreign investors and maximum interference by government agencies. Profits can now be freely repatriated and taxes on repatriated foreign money is at a low 25 per cent. The country's economic progress has been as dramatic that Chile has been invited to negotiate, not only NAFTA membership, but also associate

status with the European Union as well. The most dramatic show of confidence in Latin America has been the allocation of half of this year's hefty \$140-million exploration budget by Toronto's Bancroft Gold Corp. to South America, especially to Chile where the company has three mines under production or development.

The stampede to spend and dig in Latin America dominated the Florida conference. But since the event was billed "Investing in the Americas," Anne McLellan, the spunky federal minister of natural resources, didn't see any reason why she shouldn't establish a booth for Trans Canada. "If you were a Canadian mining company," she told me, "the investing in the Americas conference was largely about taking your money and putting it south of the Rio Grande. But we decided

about Canada as a storehouse of vast mineral resources, but that this country cannot rely on a government pledged to working with the mining sector to try and preserve what we recognize as an unfortunate moment of investment dollars out of our country into other parts of the world."

Most prominent were representatives to the Harbor, and the Canadian response was the best attended of the conference. In her pitch, the minister stressed some of Ottawa's promising measures, such as accelerated capital cost allowances, and programs to assist productivity and environmental modernization. Most importantly, she pointed the pragmatic Voisey's Bay nickel strike in Labrador as an example of the rich potential that still lurks under Canada's wilderness.

"We take it for granted," she said, "but we have significant host countries don't enjoy and that's political stability. Thanks to Paul Martin, we now have economic credibility as

well as moving from Third World to developing and developed nations, other countries will have to deal with similar environmental regulations and aboriginal claims as we do."

It's a good point. McLellan was a lot of conversationalist—even if the bulk of future profits will continue to flow south of the Rio Grande. "People like coming up to me at this conference and they keep asking me, 'Doesn't it bother you that Canadian mining companies spend so much money offshore?' And I say, 'No, because we're just exporting our domestic success and are helping other countries develop their mining industries in a way that's clean and sustainable.'"

The minister's enthusiasm was reflected in her upbeat reception. Since all of the other parties featured expensive clothes, I wondered what Canadian delicacies would be available. Instead of Arctic char or maple-syrup pancakes, the grub turned out to be tortillas and beans, chicken fajitas and milder Mexican goodies. "What," I asked the man from McLellan's department who co-ordinated the Trans Canada stand, "in the midnight for serving Miso can food at a Canadian evening at an American conference?" "Sure," he said, "it's cheap." Trans Canada carries on.

People

Edited by
BARBARA WICKENS



Cummings: "The never lost my stage fright"

Alone with 88 keys

There is just a man and a piano on Up Close and Alone, the 32nd and latest album from singer-songwriter Barton Cummings. And while he performs familiar hits such as *Three Eyes* and *Stand Tall* from his days in the Guess Who and from his solo career, recording them in such a simple fashion left him, he says, with "where to hide." Adds the 48-year-old Cummings: "The fear was absolutely petrifying. But then, I've never lost my stage fright—it gives you an edge." He will have to keep dealing with that fear just ahead, Cummings will tour at least 30 North American cities. He characterizes such unflinching performances as a return to his roots when he started taking piano lessons at age 4. In turn, Cummings says he has "rekindled a great relationship" with his home town, Winnipeg, where he has a house in the city's North End, and close to his mother. "The past is very much a part of what creates the present and I don't divorce myself from the past."

The physics of fun

Canadian astronomy and physics expert Lawrence Krauss likes to boldly go where few of his peers have gone before—into the realm where serious science is fun. In his spare time, the Toronto-born Krauss, 41, chairman of the physics department at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, gives talks and writes



The dog days of winter

Actors are usually leery about sharing the stage or screen with children and animals, notorious scene-stealers. But Brennan Booth says she actually enjoyed playing second addie to a pack of sled dogs in her role of Mercedes in a remake of the Jack London classic *The Call of the Wild*. And the dog Suck—played by a 150-lb. Labrador retriever named Vasco de Vassau—is clearly the character, even though veteran actor *Ranger Hunter* is one of Booth's co-stars. "On the first day of rehearsal, director Peter Swick

reminded us all that this is a movie about the dog," says Booth, 27, a Canadian born in London who previously had a two-year stint on the soap opera *One Life to Live*. Still, working on the movie—which just wrapped up filming with northern Quebec standing in for the Yukon during the 1890s gold rush—was lots of fun, says Booth. "Hardly have I had a chance to be in a project that is so historically accurate, and to wear such wonderful period costumes," she adds. "And besides, the dogs keep you honest."



Humor on the lamb

Last week, Martha Bouillon became the first Canadian ever to win 49 years old, annual Stephen Leacock Award for humor. Bouillon—an Ontario farmer and freelance writer who 15 years ago landed high heels and full-time journalism for rubber boots and early mornings in the barn—received the award for her 1995 book, *Letters from the Country*, an amusing collection of stories about her experiences raising sheep. A former People magazine editor at Maclean's, Bouillon, 43, was chosen from a short list that included Vancouver-based writer W. P. Kinsella, who won the Leacock award in 1987, and Bill Richardson, the 1994 winner. The award was "a big surprise," says Bouillon, who was also the delighted recipient of a bonus from her flock this year. "I stole the awards lunch," she said, "I immediately went to the barn to check on our new set of triplets."

books that make science accessible to general audiences. His recent book, *The Physics of Star Trek*, is a launching pad for examining today's landscape science. Krauss also examines whether such devices as workbooks and tape travel on the popular television show and its sequels could someday truthfully exist. And could they? Replies Krauss, "Sometimes the writers of *Star Trek* get it right."

Krauss: discussing whether time travel will ever be possible

Environment

Debating the CANDU option

Should Canada process plutonium?

It is one of the world's most toxic substances, inhaling even a tiny fragment of plutonium can bring death within minutes. Because it is also a devastating explosive, plutonium was one of the main ingredients in bombs and missiles manufactured during the Cold War. Now, with the United States and Russia content to do something much of their nuclear weaponry, both countries are grappling with the question of what to do with the plutonium. It is an urgent issue because of the nightmare possibility that terrorists or rogue-state governments could use stolen plutonium to make nuclear weapons. As it happens, Canada has a proposal that could help the U.S. and Russian governments out of their nuclear dilemma: why not turn the plutonium in CANDU reactors? The idea has set off a heated debate, with environmentalists claiming that Ottawa's real

motivation is to find a new rationale—and cash—for Canada's flagging nuclear industry. "It's a total scam," says Steve Shalhorn, Greenpeace Canada's campaign director. "There's no legitimate reason why Canada should get involved in burning plutonium in its reactors."

The Canadian plan is one of several methods currently under consideration in Washington for disposing of about 37 tons of surplus American plutonium. And Prime Minister Jean Chrétien presented the idea during a meeting of world leaders held in Moscow last month to discuss nuclear security on the 10th anniversary of the world's worst nuclear accident—the explosion at Chernobyl reactor. At the meeting, Russian officials agreed to study the possibility of burning some of their plutonium in Canadian reactors. "The plutonium has to be destroyed," said Chrétien, "and a lot of



Protest at Pickering: extending the lives of old reactors

people believe that our CANDU reactor is the best way to do it."

The Moscow meeting had barely ended and when they were further anxious reminders of the risks involved in operating nuclear power plants. On April 20, Ontario Hydro, the publicly owned power utility, began shutting down all eight reactors at its Pickering electricity-generating plant, just east of Toronto, after inspectors spotted a faulty valve in a backup safety system. In an unrelated accident five days earlier, 1,000 litres of radioactive liquid leaked into Lake Ontario from a heat exchanger on one of the Pickering reactors. Ontario Hydro officials said that the leak posed no threat to the public.

Some environmentalists maintain that the plan to process plutonium in CANDUs is fraught with hazards because Ontario Hydro plans to use closed-circuit reactors that would otherwise be re-fitted. Hydro officials say the reactors are in good working condition. Other critics fear massive security and safety problems if weapons-grade plutonium is brought into the country. Canadian officials have an answer to that objection, too: before it reaches Canada, they say, U.S. and Russian plutonium would be combined with refined uranium to form a less volatile substance called MOX (for mixed-oxide fuel) that is relatively safe and easy to handle.

Washington is further along in the process of deciding how to dispose of its plutonium—and Canadian officials hope the U.S. decision will lead to a multibillion-dollar contract for burning MOX in Ontario reactors. In a July 1994 submission to the U.S. department of energy, the federally backed Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. and Ontario Hydro proposed that MOX could be processed in two of the eight reactors at Hydro's Bruce generating station, 200 km northwest of Toronto. Experts say the CANDUs are particularly suited to the task. The reason: unlike most other reactors, CANDUs can be fuelled while they are running. "The online fueling capability," says Ron Oberth, business development manager for Ontario Hydro's nuclear division, "means that we can feed in MOX in a way that optimizes reactor performance."

Crucial to the scheme is that despite its worldwide-notorious billing, one of the main objectives of the Canadian proposal is to keep the Bruce reactors in operation. Both units will need about 8500 million worth of repairs by the middle of the next decade, and a plutonium contract could help pay the bills. Beyond that, environmentalists argue that public disillusion-

ment with nuclear energy and poor overseas sales of CANDU reactors have left Canada's nuclear establishment searching for a new justification. "At a time when we should be heading towards a phasing out of the nuclear industry," says Andrew Chisholm, a spokesman for the Ottawa-based Sierra Club of Canada, "they're looking for anything that will extend the life of old reactors and keep the industry going."

The Canadian proposal is just one of the options being studied in Washington. Among the others, plutonium could be burned in U.S. reactors or sealed in glass or ceramic material and buried in heavily guarded sites. According to Dave Nulios,

an official in the U.S. department of energy, a decision is expected by the end of the year—and "there is no preferred alternative as yet." If the CANDU plan is selected, a full-scale experimental review would have to be held in Canada. But even if the Bruce reactors begin processing MOX some time in the next century, that will not get rid of all the plutonium. As much as a third of it would survive in the spent fuel and become part of the problem Ottawa faces in finding a safe repository for the 1,400 tons of nuclear waste already generated by the CANDUs.

MARK NICHOLS

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CHORTER

Return of the King

BY JAMES DEACON

**Arnold Palmer
may be golf royalty,
but he is also a
man of the people**

The crowd surrounding the first tee at the PGA Seniors' Championship in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., had already filled the temporary grandstands and any other viewing areas long before Arnold Palmer arrived. He was playing his first round with American star Hale Irwin and South African newcomer John Bland, and he was the least likely of the three to challenge for the championship. Yet he was the one most of the spectators had come to see. And when he finally managed to squeeze through the unruly throng of well-wishers and autograph hounds and emerged onto the conditioned tee area, the applause was spontaneous. Most fans stood, many called out his name, and several women blew kisses. Minutes later, when he was officially introduced by the starter, the cheers of Arnold's Army rose to a lusty roar. Palmer turned, doffed his cap and smiled, and held out his hand—not so much in a wave but as if to reach out to his legend. As the tide subsided, he asked his caddy about the wind and the distance to the throwy bunkers before choosing a club. Then, in the next breath, he teed it off and drilled a 280-yard drive straight down the middle.

Forget Elton John: The King plays golf, not guitar. Since turning onto the sports scene in the mid-1950s as a band-named, hard-rocking dynamo, Arnold Palmer has led golf out of choiced country clubs and into the mainstream of North American life. From the moment he won his first Tour victory at the 1955 Canadian Open, his popularity soared—not just among the glad-pants set but among people who didn't know a new iron from an iron mine but were attracted by his casual-the-peepie style. That charisma gave the PGA Tour the star power it needed to elevate itself from a nonsensical fringe sport to a mainstay on network TV. Years later, in the early 1980s, Palmer did the same for the infant Senior PGA Tour, helping it become perhaps the most successful start-up sports enterprise of the last two decades.

The work is not done: This

season, the 66-year-old Palmer is deeply involved in two major golf ventures in Canada. The Greater Vancouver Open, a new PGA Tour event, will be played from Aug. 22 to 25 on Palmer's latest Canadian course, Northview Golf & Country Club in Surrey, east of Vancouver. And he will be the main attraction at the inaugural (to Muirfield Champions,

a Senior Tour tournament to be played June 13 to 16 at the venerable Hamilton Golf and Country Club in Ancaster, Ont. To the embarrassment of the event's organizers, Palmer did not have to have his arm twisted. He wanted to come. "Canada has always been important to me," he told Maclean's in a recent interview. "I was my first official tournament there, and I haven't forgotten that."

Neither have his fans, which is rather remarkable. Consider: Palmer has passed retirement age, wears hearing aids, his hair is so weathered that the wrinkles around his eyes have deepened into creases and he has not won an official tournament in almost eight years. Yet he still captivates an audience with nerve and style. "Watch this," a two-year-old boy has whispered excitedly to a dad before Palmer teed off in Palm Beach Gardens. "Knowing Arnie, he's going for the green." Do golf courses that usually tolerate only polite applause, the army claudes for autographs



Blazing out of a sand trap, playing his first British Open at St. Andrews in 1955 (left) and playing in 1991

and holders' support as if he were still mounting his famous charges. Fans remember, or have been told, that he once won tournaments the way Errol Flynn bested back giants. In fact, Palmer remains so compelling because he still plays to win, looking at shots with a signature swing that seems uncharged from the one that produced 61 PGA Tour victories, 12 on the Senior Tour and 15 other titles around the world. "It's as if you have to watch him," says PGA Tour veteran Ben Crenshaw. "When he wraps his hands around a golf club, you just know something exciting is about to happen."

The admirers are not confined to the galleries. Tearing pros of all ages raved Palmer with respect bordering on awe, and not just for his accomplishments on the course. Thanks to his business acumen, he is worth an estimated \$270 million; last year

had not been born there in 1929. He grew up in a small house alongside the Latrobe Country Club. His father, Donald, had been on the construction crew that built the nine-hole golf course for a local steel company; he later joined the grounds crew and eventually was promoted to greenkeeper and club professional. Young Arnie got his first custom clubs at age three and broke 100 for 18 holes when he was only 7. But despite winning summers with his father as a caddy and club maker, Palmer was not permitted to play the members-only Latrobe course. He laughs when asked if he takes any extra satisfaction from the fact that he has now won the course, and keeps a souvenir home there. "That happens in America," he says, "which is why this country is so great."

Thanks to two state high-school championships, Palmer was

also, he earned about \$10 and lost from his worldwide enterprises ranging from equipment manufacturing and golf course development to autographs and aviation sponsorships. He travels to appointments aboard his own Learjet's Cessna Citation VII jet. But with all of that, he is undeniably modest and polite, taking time to thank tournament volunteers and signing more autographs than any of his peers. Jack Nicklaus may be the best player of all time, says Lee Trevino, but there is no doubt who is the most influential player in the sport. "Arnold Palmer, no question," the talkative Texan said after a recent practice round in Florida. "We all want to be like Arnie, really it's not even Arnie's 60 years old now, and he's never not anything derogatory in his whole life."

For baby boomers, Palmer was the ideal. He played hard, threw a good party and seemed a refreshing alternative to the stuffy pre-war-dish types. In person, his kindness was more followers. PGA Tour pro Mark McCumber says it was Palmer who inspired him to pursue a career in golf. On the practice green at the Bay Hill national this spring, he recalled meeting his idol at an exhibition in Jacksonville, Fla., in 1952. McCumber, then 11 years old, ran up to Palmer early in the round and asked for a golf ball. Palmer told him to see him later, so McCumber followed him closely the rest of the day. "At the end, he was surrounded by other kids and he gave away every ball in his bag," McCumber says. "I started to leave and got about 30 yards away when he calls, 'Hey kid!' I turned around and he flips me the ball; he had been playing. 'I didn't forget you,' he said. 'And I never forgot it, either.'"

The steel town of Latrobe, Pa., 40 km southeast of Pittsburgh, would probably be best known as the home of Rolling Rock beer. It would be, that is, if Arnold Palmer had not been born there in 1929. He grew up in a small house alongside the Latrobe Country Club. His father, Donald, had been on the construction crew that built the nine-hole golf course for a local steel company; he later joined the grounds crew and eventually was promoted to greenkeeper and club professional. Young Arnie got his first custom clubs at age three and broke 100 for 18 holes when he was only 7. But despite winning summers with his father as a caddy and club maker, Palmer was not permitted to play the members-only Latrobe course. He laughs when asked if he takes any extra satisfaction from the fact that he has now won the course, and keeps a souvenir home there. "That happens in America," he says, "which is why this country is so great."



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SPECIAL REPORT

awarded a golf scholarship at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C., in 1947. He played well, twice winning conference titles, but he left before graduation, joined the coast guard for three years and then worked as a pilot salesman in Cleveland. He did not decide to turn pro until he won the U.S. Golf Association Amateur Championship in 1951. That same year, he met and eloped with Winifred Wilson, who has been his wife for more than 45 years.

Palmer was not an immediate success when he first turned pro, and by the time he, Winifred and their son-traveler got to Weston Golf and Country Club in Toronto that summer to begin the Canadian Open, he was beginning to wonder if he could ever make a living from tournament golf. Nearly 61 years later, putting his feet up after the second round at the Senior's Championship, he remembers each day at Weston clearly. He started well, shooting an eight-under-par 64 in the first round, one back of Charlie Siffert's outstanding 63. Palmer shot 67 the next day to take the lead. "It was sort of a tense round for me," he recalls. "I wanted to put myself in a position to win a tournament for the first time. After that, the people were really nice, really rooting for me. I could feel it—I made me feel good. But I was scared to death, too."

Larry O'Brien, a Montebello who now is vice-president of Jack Nicklaus' company, Golden Bear International, was doing commentary for CBC at the 1955 Canadian Open, and recalls how Palmer became the fan favorite. Unlike so many other competitors, Palmer seemed to attack a course rather than just play it. "That second round was when Arnie really connected with the crowd," says O'Brien. "You could feel it, like a wave." Palmer pulled away from the field with rounds of 64 and 70—according to press reports, three of his cruelest shots bounced back into play off surrounding pine trees.

In hindsight, Palmer says, the win in Canada hardly has carried around. With new confidence, he went on to win two PGA Tour events in 1956 and 1958 over the next three seasons, including the 1958 Masters, his first "major." Between 1960 and 1967, he flourished, recording 31 victories, including three dramatic triumphs at the Masters, one in the 1960 U.S. Open and two British Open titles.

Off flashed from a practice round on a hot Florida day, Jack Nicklaus—the man who cut short Palmer's domination of the game in the 1960s—says the rivalry between the two giants continues. Their companies now compete for business all around the world, and they still face each other at tournaments, as they did at both the recent Masters and PGA Senior's Championship. "Arnold and I butt heads no matter what we do, whether it's designing golf courses, playing, endorsement work, whatever," says Nicklaus, who



With Nicklaus and another phenom Tiger Woods at the Masters in April, with Wilson next to him in 1955. He never forgets how he grew up.



**'Arnold and I butt heads
no matter what we do,'
says Nicklaus**

Palmer crossed the model line for the athletic-busman. McCormack was a Cleveland lawyer and born business golfer who, in 1952, began arranging Palmer's affairs. "He had no interest in handling insurance or taxes or answering his mail—he just wanted to play golf," McCormack says. "So I told him that he'd play better if he had someone to look after those things."

Since that handshake agreement, McCormack has built the International Management Group, the largest sports marketing and management firm in the world, while helping Palmer create Arnold Palmer Enterprises, a holding company that oversees his many businesses. The two men started modestly, working uncharted territory in those simpler days, most athletes had yet to board the glory train of corporate sponsorship (though Babe Ruth had lent his name to a candy bar). Before long, McCormack convinced companies that they could sell more clubs, cars or any other product by licensing Palmer's name. There was even a string of Arnold Palmer dry cleaners. As well, McCormack arranged exhibitions and private outings with business executives who would pay handsome fees to play a round

SPORTS SPECIAL REPORT

with the King. The demand soon outstripped the supply, and McCormack added such stars as Nicklaus and Gary Player to his stable. "It became apparent that businessmen liked to play golf with the pros," McCormack says. "It wasn't like the other sports—you couldn't play football with [Joe Namath, for instance]."

Palmer excelled in his new role. He was comfortable talking to executives, whether in a suit at meetings or hosting a luncheon on the golf course, and the associations had enduring benefits. "A lot of those people became chief executives about the way," he says, "and they were good connections to have."

Palmer's leadership in so many aspects of modern golf explains why after sites look to him for advice. Walking off the third tee during a round at the PGA Seniors' Championship, for instance, Hale lewis quitted him on choosing a private airplane. Palmer was among the first athletes to buy and fly his own plane, and his interest in aviation led to a 10-year involvement with Wichita, Kan.-based Cessna Aircraft Co. "A lot of the guys come to me with questions about flying, about what goes into keeping an airplane, the costs and so on," he says. He doesn't discourage them, but he doesn't clear their overing and flying a private plane requires a major commitment. "It takes time to get current with what you have to know as a pilot," he says.

Although he now plays a limited schedule of tournaments, Palmer has not slowed down. His hobbies include the Loblake Country Club and the Bay Hill Club and Lodge in Orlando. He is a major stockholder and director of the Tennessee-based Arnold Palmer Golf Co., which manufactures clubs and other equipment bearing his name. He is chairman of The Golf Channel, a 24-hour cable network based in Orlando through the Palmer Course Design Co., he and architect Ed Sey have designed or redesigned 125 courses around the world, and he has dozens that manage golf courses and teaching centers. And he is a spokesman for so many ad companies, including Office Depot and Cadillac.

He may soon cut back on his schedule, he says, but at the moment he has too much to do. "I am still very busy in business, especially with golf course design," he says. "I do not have a lot of time for myself, but I'm trying." He has not chosen a successor—his two daughters, Paige, 16, and Amy, 17, are busy with their own careers, and their husbands are involved in other businesses. "So I suppose as time goes on, I'll have to look for someone to take over the business, or get rid of them," he says.

Palmer enjoys the Senior Tour. 'Golfers used to have to find something else to do, or just retire. That isn't much fun.'

Lined among the live oaks and palm trees of a discreet, upscale residential development in Orlando, the Bay Hill Inn is located in a posh step on the regular PGA Tour every March, and not just because of its \$1.4-million price. It is Arnold's Tournament, and Palmer's companying personal style is evident throughout. Many of the volunteer marshals and scoreboard attendants are neighbors. During the event, even while Tour pros are concentrating on paths worth tens of thousands of dollars, kids continue to play on a set of swings and mon-



The winner of the 1995 Centenary Open giving autographs for the winners (left): "If I continue to play poorly, I will slow down."

key have just 30 m off the 11th green. "Coming here to this tournament," says Nick Price, the Zimbabwean star, "it's like being invited to someone's home."

Bay Hill is Palmer's winter home. He bought into the development in 1970, and when he is not traveling, he can usually be found in his garage workshop, tinkering with his clubs, or out on the course with members playing for the usual fee, \$30 a head (he and Phyllis Young say they bought a home at Bay Hill 10 years ago solely because it was Arnold's place, but they never expected him to leave to become their friend. "He's one of the guys," says Bud, a 69-year-old friend, "and he is a real good person to have a round of golf with."

Although he is deeply involved in several aspects of his business, notably course design and aviation, Palmer has found no rival to his love of the game. For that, he is grateful for the Senior Tour. He started playing in 1980 and won the U.S. Senior Open in 1987. "It means an extension of my life in golf," he says. "It has kept me going, and kept a lot of these other guys going, too. It has increased our competitive lifespan, which I think is healthy. Golfers used to have to find something else to do, or just retire." He paused, then added: "That isn't much fun."

The senior circuit has done more than just give a bunch of gray-haired men a place to continue their adolescence. It has made many of them rich. Beginning with two events and garnish totaling \$300,000 in 1980, the Senior Tour now boasts 44 tournaments offering more than \$20 million in prize money. Twelve seniors finished with more than \$1 million each in 1995 tournament earnings alone. And although some players will instead play the U.S. Open that week, the field is American. They may still include such fan favorites as Trevino and Chi Chi Rodriguez, leading money winners like Dave Stockton and Ben Coker, and local star Gary Cowen of Richmond, Va. (Richmonders invited Canadian legend Norm Macdonald, another 50-year-old native, but he turned down the chance to compete and instead plans to conduct clinics.) Although some veteran pros now rely on electric carts to get around the course, their games remain sharp. "When you are playing against a Nicklaus or a Coker or any of the other great players out here," says Lewis, "you have to have your head game going or you're going to lose."

While he enjoys the competition, Palmer does not like to lose. He has not won a Senior event since 1988, and although he played well at the recent PGA Seniors in Palm Beach Gardens through the first round and a half, he was the over par as the back nine of the second round and missed the cut by two strokes. He was not happy. "If I continue to play poorly, then I will slow down quite a lot," he says. "I suppose it's getting close to the time when I will need to think about that slogan."

Sitting in the players' lounge after his final round at Bay Hill in March, McCormack suggested that people are able to retire in Palmer just by watching him play. "He's rugged, he's an individualist, he's damn chaotic," explains McCormack, a slow-speaking Texan. "You see all of that just in the way he swings the club." But McCormack maintains that Palmer's star continues to shine so brightly after more than 40 years of competition because of his off-course behavior. "He's so appreciative of the things he has," McCormack says. "He has never forgotten how he grew up. He is the ideal that the rest of ball sport is modeling."

He has earned money thousands, but Palmer says he started from his father that personal success was measured by how people lived their lives, not by their accomplishments. He recently honored his father by naming a prototype flathead driver after him. Wherever he goes, he is honored, while signing autographs at the PGA, a pocket fence collapsed under the weight of fans. But Palmer never stopped back to avoid being panned, then moved down the line to where the fence was still upright and continued signing. The 44,000 gets a little mad at times. "But I appreciate it and am thankful," he says. "One of the reasons I continue to make an effort is because people continue to root for me." If that's the case, Palmer may have to play for a long, long time. □



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JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKY



Before they officially opened a year ago, the proprietors of Angus Glen Golf Club in Markham, Ont., had planned to charge a prohibitive fee of \$85 per round. But pre-opening demand for access to the dramatic new layout was such that the owners raised the per-person fee to \$30. Even at that, the course was virtually sold out between May 1 and Oct. 31, its clients were mostly couples looking for large groups or tournaments, and, by any measure, it was an outstanding success, one that may alter top clubs in Canada's hopes to emulate. To top off a great year, the course was named the Best New Canadian Course by the influential U.S. magazine, *Golf Digest*. Still on a roll, Angus Glen is considering building a second course, and will open the 1990 season charging \$100 per round. "Last year was beyond our wildest expectations," says Kevin Thiele, Angus Glen's general manager. "We were hoping to turn people away."

Just as golf in the 1980s was dominated by the development of lavish and astronomically expensive private clubs, the 1990s trend is to high-end public courses. From the spectacular mansions setting of Westwood Palms in Cowiham, B.C., to the dunes and beachside beauty of The Links at Crowbush Cove in F.E.I., public greens offer private-club amenities without the staggering initiation fees. They appeal to companies and organizations that buy tee boxes to host tournaments or to treat valued or prospective clients. But like the private clubs of the 1980s, the high-end public courses are aimed at the elite market, leaving a gaping hole in the golf world. With public-course players accounting for 80 per cent of Canada's approximately four million golfers, many simply cannot afford daily fees of up to \$165.

In both Canada and the United States, the total number of golfers declined in the early 1990s recession, and officials fear that even fewer people will take up the game unless it becomes more affordable. "People will simply find other ways to spend their money," says John Gordon, executive director of the Ontario Golf Association. That may already be happening. On the surface, the equipment market appears healthy thanks to the boom in flannel-headed drivers that cost up to \$600—more than what most people pay for a complete set of clubs. But across the country, manufacturers say that the total number of clubs sold has been relatively flat for the past few years. Many blame the sports recession. "Courses are scarce," says Michael Francis, a marketing manager for Wilson Sports Equipment Canada Inc., "so there is a great need for good, inexpensive public golf."

In urban areas, the few reasonably priced facilities are crowded and the pace of play is painfully slow. The climate at the



Golf's two solitudes

Developers scramble to serve high-end players



Waiting to play: The Links at Crowbush Cove depicts a pressing need for more affordable and accessible courses

first tee intimidates beginners, and the prospect of a six-hour round discourages people with families who have little free time. Jack Abraham, a 58-year-old traveling executive and married father of two who lives in Bedford, N.S., near Halifax, says he has to be on the course at sunrise to beat the crowd. "I'm out at 5:30 a.m. and home by 9 a.m.," says Abraham. "If you're losing a half day from your family, that is definitely a problem."

Golfers in the United States face similar problems, and the Professional Golfers' Association of America thinks it has a solution. The PGA, which represents professionals who staff courses after, owns and manages a 30-acre practice and teaching facility and two new courses in Port St. Lucie, Fla., by renowned architect Tom Fazio. Courses by Fazio, co-designer of The National in Woodbridge, Ont. (annually rated the best course in Canada), often command greens fees of \$225 or more. At the PGA Golf Club, high-season rates are \$66, including cart, and \$34 in low season. "We could prior our debt cession if we charged \$80 (U.S.) a round," says Jim Avery, chief executive officer of the PGA, "but then we'd just be like everyone else." Avery added that "if we can take this prototype and do it at a dozen or more centers around the country, then we will have made the game more accessible."

With no such initiative in Canada, golfers will have to hope that competition among the high-end clubs will eventually bring prices down. In the Vancouver area, the battle is already fierce. "If public players hear that another course is in better shape or has a special deal on green fees, we will just be left out," says Christopher Hoy, head professional at Northview Golf & Country Club. But as long as corporate demand remains strong, golfers on a budget will have to find other places to play.

JAMES DEWON with JOAN DeMONT in Halifax and
RAL GIBSON in Vancouver



GOLF AS SEEN BY



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Trent Frayne

How Greg Norman went from goat to hero

Tow that Greg Norman has been forgiven for losing the Masters golf tournament, does it mean that the sports world is ready to abandon the dictum of St. Vincent Lombardi, the father of the notion that winning is the only thing?

Greg, the Masters guest, became his unexpected hero when people turned second thoughts to his graceful handling of a disastrous final. First by far after three rounds, he faded in the fourth and lost a title he had all but locked up.

But forgiven? It isn't easy to forgive a man who can't remember whether he has five Ferraris or six. Still, it happened. A couple of days after his public humiliation, Norman was stunned by the response to it.

"You can't believe how many people have been calling me up," he said. "The reaction I've had, not just from here but globally, from all over the place. We got lots of letters in Japanese." Even the tallest of forebears at the New York Times joined the parade. In a rare editorial on sports, the deep thinkers suggested, "Anyone who has ever flubbed a job interview, gone black in the middle of delivering a speech, double-failed to lose a bet can identify with Greg Norman."

Norman had a snow-bowl and lost the tournament by five to the dethroned Ben Nick Faldo. People peering in his house could scarcely believe their tiny screens, some putting themselves in Norman's predicament, considering failure to their own line of work in front of billions of onlookers.

Still, not everyone was berating with sympathy. "One of the biggest choices," wrote the sensitive Jim Hunt the next day in *The Toronto Star*. Dave Anderson in *The New York Times* was dismayed that Norman took his collapse philosophically; that he said "It's not the end of the world. I'll get up tomorrow morning still breathing. I hope" Anderson wondered if Greg has "too philosophical" for his own good.

Nobody said, maybe not. Especially in light of the wide-ranging sympathetic response, which Lorne Rubenstein captioned in *The Globe and Mail*. "You cannot exaggerate enough the sportsmanship that Norman displayed on No. 18, tipping his hat to the still applauding crowd after seeking a short putt for a double bogey"—his second consecutive double bogey in five holes.

So there it is. Isn't this warm response tempered the Lombardi dictum's warning as the only thing? Maybe. But it isn't more apt to happen to that Nonosito, estranged of being the larger-than-life figure that golf fans have grown accustomed to, a dashing fellow with money, a private jet, a helicopter or two, a yacht, those five or six Ferraris and, good God! all that golden hair, will become a popular figure strutting the foreways, as the galleries applaud his spectacular shot-making, but awe with recognition of his mortality.

For Greg Norman is not the first star to show sportsmanship in the face of a stunning defeat. Consider Boris Becker, the red-headed thunderbolt of tennis, a winner, earnest, big-hearted German, who, at 17 in 1985, was the youngest Wimbledon winner ever. He repeated in 1986, and what a relief he was in the wake of the two American yahoos, Jimmy Connors and John McEnroe.

But then in 1987 at the tennis shrine, with everyone captivated by his knockout serve, his diving volleys, his scorching ground strokes, Becker was unsuccessfully dented in the second round by a tall, skinny unknown from Australia, Peter Doolan.

Afterward, cloistered with the hard thinking sorrows, Becker slipped to the mid-1980s garden in a forthright fashion ("Is this your most disappointing defeat ever?"). "No, I've lost other tough matches." "Have there been other matches when you've been this bad?" "I didn't play so badly as he played well. Every time he would guess where I'd put the ball he was right." And as the gloom questions continued, young Boris, becoming, made a statement on his own. "Look, I tried my best and I lost," he said. "In tennis, I cannot play good every day. But there was no war, no one was killed. It was just a tennis match."

That led to tonight's worldly scribbles a thing or two that day, and when they wrote of it they lauded his wisdom to thousands of readers. But did Becker's courtesy change anything? Not much. Connors and McEnroe seemed perched on the tennis courts and the throngs still thrilled to their skill.

Even before Boris Becker there was Jack Dempsey. In his day Jack Dempsey's last seven opponents to the floor and sometimes out of the ring. He was among the least esteemed of all the heavyweight boxing champions in the seven years of the 1890s that he ruled. Dempsey was cruel and overestimated in the ring. Outside, he was a social asset, landed a First World War sticker.

And then came 1936 and the night of Sept. 23 in Philadelphia. In a steady rain, before a crowd of 130,373 people who paid \$1,600,732 in gate receipts, Gene Tunney, the so-called Fighting Mariner who outboxed Dempsey for 16 rounds, cut him up severely and took his crown.

Who cared? Nobody, until word seeped out that Dempsey's gorgeous actress wife, Estelle Taylor, had visited him in the dressing room following the fight. "What happened, Gene?" she asked, using her pet name for him.

"Honey," he replied, "I fought to death." In this fashion the reviled Dempsey suddenly became a beloved figure, warm and humane, soon taming with humility and graciousness (and profits) his ill-fated career. But this new concept of Dempsey really didn't change anything to the victor still wet the spoils—through the ages in Mike Tyson and beyond. Accordingly, St. Vincent Lombardi can tell: Winning is not.

Royals

Prince without pomp

Alone, Charles makes a low-key visit to Canada

For a week, the nation was caught up in the mystique of the monarchy. At every stop on the tour, thousands of flag-waving admirers gathered to catch a glimpse of royalty. Remember those days? That was 1981, when the Prince and Princess of Wales, Charles and Diana, visited Canada amid widespread outpourings of affection. Cut to last week.

A somber Charles alone—strapped off the airplane in Ottawa to the cheers of only about 100 people, including an escort of two Guides and Brownies. "I saw him up close," gushed seven-year-old Ottawa Brownie Rose Probyn, "and he looked good." But not many Canadians—or

even, for that matter—shared Probyn's enthusiasm. One example: The British press took only three of the 30 pages available for the trip. "Most of the tabloid press," said Timothy Rook, a British photographer who followed the Prince to Ottawa, "found that this wasn't a particularly interesting visit."

Actually, a week—at least as an indicator of how much has changed in five years. With his soon-to-be-crown king in England, Charles's wedding was hardly lost to Canada by storm. Part of the reason is a string of royal scandals, which has taken its toll on the Royal Family's popularity among Canadians. And then there is the Di. Career Charles can no longer borrow the shine of the gleaming Diana, with whom he is negotiating a messy divorce.



Meeting with-wishers in Ottawa; preferring substance over ceremony

And yet, for all its status as a media buzz, the 41-year-old prince's tour also highlighted his amiable manner and his humanity—a man who, if and when he becomes king, might well bring his monarchy down to earth.

Once was much of the pomp and ceremony of the 1991 tour, as sparse crowds greeted Charles at almost every stop. And the weather mimicked the lukewarm public response. It rained in Ottawa, it snowed in Winnipeg. And it was cold and windy in Toronto. Charles had better weather—and a warmer reception—the next day in Hamilton, where he gave a speech before 15,000 people, most of them youngsters given time off school. The back in Toronto only on the weekend, Charles was greeted by more cold and gloom.

Despite the lack of glitter, those who

baftered to show up and meet the Prince of Wales were largely impressed. "He's a man you can look up to," said Capi James Cameron of the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, an armed forces regiment Charles inspected. "He looks like an honest man." In Churchill, Man., about 1,000 people—the entire population of the Hudson Bay sea port—turned out as he oversaw the signing of an agreement to establish Wapusk National Park. "My only regret is that I, as

usual, seem to have chosen the wrong time of year to come, because there was not one single, solitary sign of a polar bear or a beluga whale," Charles later said, with typically self-deprecating humor, "kissing the Prince of Wales, I feel particularly responsible for them."

Back in England, Princess Diana was doing what she seems to do best: making headlines. She sat at an on-air breakfast, conducted by British newscaster, as a seven-year-old boy from Cameron. Her television appearance in an operatic room—while devoted to his makeup and earnings—touched off a hail of criticism that Diana was taking her self-appointed role as "queen of people's hearts" too far.

By contrast, the low-key response to Charles's visit in Canada, coupled with his own hands-on, self-deprecating, and preference for substance over ceremony without Diana, his appearances were more like intimate gatherings than photo ops. At Children of the Earth High School in Winnipeg, above, and students showed him how they paint spirit rocks and wear sweat-suits, and they gave him a spiritual song. Leading Star For a prince decidedly lacking in star quality, that seems a masterpiece. But Tina Landa, a Grade 11 student, said Charles a bigger compliment. "His name," Landa said simply. "His history and background."

JOE CHIDLEY with DON MACGILLIVRAY in Winnipeg and LANCE FISHBEIN in Ottawa

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Films

Margot Kidder's descent into darkness



With Reeves, in the late 1970s (left), a fan spirit who feared fame with *Superman*

In the media, the lives of Hollywood stars are most readily exploited as fables, as tales of fairy tale triumph or tragic fall. Last week's news of Margot Kidder's strange midlife crisis was shocking, sad and bewildering. And as the story took on a life of its own, the media discovered that a lot of the hard elements of a Hollywood melodrama. "Loni Lane has crashed in California," blared a typical tabloid news report after police discovered the Canadian actress cowering in a stranger's suburban Los Angeles backyard—dazed, disheveled and catatonic.

Kidder, 47, who failed to stardom opposite Christopher Reeve in four *Superman* movies, had gone missing three days earlier at Los Angeles International Airport. When she turned up 45 km from there, on a tree-lined street in the suburb of Glendale, she appeared "light-headed and paranoid," according to police spokesman Sgt. Rick Young. She claimed that she had been assaulted and was being followed, he noted. She was dirty and bruised. She had crudely lashed off her hair, apparently to escape detection. And early reports said that her front teeth had been knocked out—but she was just not wearing her dental plate, which, as one *Times* third columnist, is not all that unusual.

As Kidder underwent psychiatric examination in a Los Angeles hospital, family members made plans to be by her side. They declined any comment. And doctors



would not disclose her condition, admitting police for giving up her identity to the media. By week's end, she had been moved to a private clinic in an undisclosed location.

Later, members of a TV news crew from Knoxville, Tenn., who had bumped into her at the Los Angeles airport just before her disappearance, said she told them that one of her three ex-husbands had hired someone to kill her. The crew said she did not specify which of the three—Montana novelist Thomas McGuane, Hollywood star John Heard, or French director Philippe de Broca—she was referring to. After two-year marriage to McGuane, which ended in 1977, produced Kidder's only child, Maggie. Police have concluded that there is no evidence to support Kidder's claims of abuse, noting that she twice refused to meet with their investigators.

Meanwhile, several sources who encountered Kidder in Glendale without realizing who she was reported that they had helped her. "She said her name was Elizabeth and she was really paranoid about not having anyone know where she was," recalled one of them, a 28-year-old car salesman named Robert Gianni, who said he paid \$45 for her to stay at a Glendale motel after unsuccessfully trying to place her as a homeless shelter. Gianni said she told him that she had been "waiting for three days from L.A."

being drugs who had beaten her up, and that she was sleeping in bushes.

The sad and bizarre plight of Margot Kidder has generated a convenient mythology. A faded star, desperate and vulnerable, is suddenly thrust into the suffering clasp of the public spotlight. Loni Lane is in dire distress, and *Superman* is unable to swoop to her rescue. Christopher Reeve, paralyzed from last year's riding accident, issued a statement of support: "My heart goes out to her. If there is anything I can do, I will. She is a dear friend who has always been there for me, and I would do anything to help her."

Kidder's current woes fall low a long trail of distress, beginning with a car accident in 1990 that left her handicapped for a year and hospitalized her with medical bills. It happened in Vancouver, while she was driving on the set of *Nancy Drew and the Hidden Staircase*, a TV series. Kidder suffered spinal damage and later sued the Canadian producer, Nelvana, for \$1 million in damages and never collected it, by launching the suit she became ineligible for Canadian workers' compensation. Says her friend, Toronto screenwriter John Friesch:

With *Thriller* in 1990, she feared her substance abuse but not her recklessness

workshop. Her personal manager, John Blake, says she has worked "pretty steadily" over the past few years, mostly guest-starring in series television. In the last movie she worked on, *Never Mr. Pussie*, a low-budget feature that finished shooting in Boston in November, she plays a divorced divorcee actress.

Prozac's makers expressed nothing but praise for Kidder's professionalism. "I absolutely loved working with her," said writer-director Stephen Gask. "She's a phenomenal talent. I just think it is really tragic what's happening to her, and I hope



she will be heading back. Haverill College, in Toronto.

At 17, she made her screen debut in a National Film Board production, *The Best Dancer*. Kidder from *Calculus* in *Kalender*. Then, cast as a virgin prodigy in *Non-stop*, *Jealousy's Gaily*, *Gaily* 1980, she launched her career. Her husband, Friesch, recalls that "she was raw and naive, but even then she was a waste of causes, passionate and not afraid to stand her ground." Kidder worked her way through an eclectic string of films before *Superman's* Loni Lane made her famous in 1978.

She also worked her way through an eclectic string of careers, from director Brian DePalma to former prime minister Pierre Trudeau.

Kidder has admitted that she burned through a lot of money and alcohol in the early years of her time. She also spent much of her fortune bankrolling unsuccessful attempts to adapt *Margaret Atwood's* 1978 novel, *Lady Oracle*, to the screen. She later learned her substance abuse, but not her recklessness. "Margot is very much living for the minute and the day," said Canadian producer Vivian Lashback, who worked with Kidder on a film in Prague

The Canadian actress star in decline, has become famous for falling apart

"It was one of those unbelievable Catch 22 scenarios, where you really feel like she was going to leave."

Kidder's troubles boiled out of a *Superman* movie. Her *Superman* IV co-star and close friend Richard Pryor, who once sat himself on fire while frolicking cocaine, now has multiple sclerosis. George Reeves, who played the Man of Steel in the 1950s TV series, died of a gunshot wound to the head. Kirk Alyn, the first actor to play *Superman*, never made another movie.

But her woes may be symptomatic of a more widespread, and less mysterious, curse. Like so many actresses of a certain age, Kidder has had to "sell" Hollywood's industry to put an expiry date on her fading talent. Also, her selfish politics and drink, unpolished behavior have not always endeared her to the industry. Theatre producer Robert Friesch told the *New York Times* that Kidder phoned him last Thursday two days after police found her in a private hospital and complained that Hollywood capriciousness as an aging has-been. "Hollywood has a system that, when you reach a certain age, you're dropped—day after day," Kidder reportedly told Friesch. "I need rest—and I need work."

When Kidder disappeared from the airport, she was said to be bound a flight to Phoenix, Ariz., to participate in an acting

she's OK." Said executive producer Jennifer Ryan, "She was wonderful. She knew her lines all the time. Everything was done in two takes." Added Ryan, "She has the most incredible sense of humor. We had some incredible times and she knew how to break the tension."

Last March, Kidder returned to Boston to successfully bid a benefit for a gay and lesbian health center. But the movie's co-director, Jim Glicken, says she had to answer an unconfident Kidder to accept the job. "She told me she wasn't funny and that she wasn't beautiful," he recalled. When he asked for permission to show a clip from *Superman*, the actress agreed, but added "I used to be pretty." In fact, Glicken says, "she really came to life on stage. She was really funny and she looked beautiful. She made 700 new fans and brought a lot of magic that evening."

Born in Yellowknife, Kidder is one of five children. They include Anne, a Toronto theatre director, who is married to actor Eric Pearson; her sister, actress Bernice Thorne, a writer; and Margot's oldest, who has inherited some of her rags-to-riches spirit. "We never really met a man who measures up to him," she once told an interviewer. As the family moved around a lot, including trips in Labrador City and Vancouver, Margot

two years ago. "I never got the feeling that she planned for the future. She lived a day and spent it all. She had no concept of money. She was always up like a house on fire." Added Leebach, "The thing I love about her is her generosity. She wasn't paid much in Prague but took a taxi for two hours to the set to give presents to everybody. Everybody loved her."

After filming in Prague, with Leebach, Kidder stayed in a motel on a street that she was visiting. Leebach's husband, director Ralph Thomas (father to *Riverdale*), told parts of it and said it was brilliant. But Glicken says that when he met Kidder, she said her back was stiff.

Sanford has been a rough ride for Kidder. After her career had begun, she felt insecure, alone, and was suddenly thrust upon her again but weak. If she had been a larger celebrity, perhaps her recent troubles never would have surfaced in the way they did. Hollywood stars are vulnerable to stress, and are usually well protected. Often, they are directors or producers, or "studio" producers, without fans. But there was nothing to prevent Margot Kidder, a star without a safety net, from taking her calamities full in full view of the world.

BRIAN D. JOHNSON and ANNE GREGG in Los Angeles



Dr. Alan Rosenberg
M.D., F.R.C.S.C., Plastic Surgeon

Q: I've tried diet and exercise, but I can't lose the weight on my thighs and abdomen. Can cosmetic surgery help?
Dr. Rosenberg: A healthy, active person who has problems with persistent fat areas is an ideal candidate for liposuction.



Before



After

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Investment: By removing excess fat, this procedure can also be used for a sleeker body shape. Body contouring surgery such as liposuction is safe, effective and affordable.

Q: How do I know if liposuction is right for me?

Dr. Rosenberg: After an in-depth consultation, I recommend the best treatment for the individual. People with good skin tone and elastically benefit most from liposuction. It will give you a tighter abdomen, thinner thighs and a

firmer waist—no love handles. Liposuction can also be used for some calves and the neck area.

Q: How is the procedure done?

Dr. Rosenberg: The surgery is performed in the comfort of private surgical facilities. Patients are given a local or general anesthesia. Tiny incisions are made in concealed areas (through which I remove multiple tunnels of fat). The result is a softening of all unwanted bulges. Afterwards, a supportive garment is worn to promote proper healing.

Q: Can the fat cells regenerate?

Dr. Rosenberg: No. They can't regenerate. Liposuction permanently removes your body's access to cells that cause fat.

Q: How long does it take to heal?

Dr. Rosenberg: After liposuction you go home the same day. You will be able to return to work within 3-7 days and resume regular activities in about 2 weeks.

Q: What is the difference between a tummy tuck and liposuction?

Dr. Rosenberg: A tummy tuck, or abdominoplasty, removes excess skin and fat from the abdomen and brings together the loose underlying abdominal muscles, tightening and so contouring the area. Tummy tucks are an ideal alternative for people who can't be treated by liposuction alone. It is also a procedure patients are very satisfied with.

Dr. Rosenberg: is Chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery at the University of Toronto-affiliated Toronto General Hospital. He provides cosmetic surgery services located at Don Mills from cosmetic surgery patients in its 30-40-minute surgical facilities.

For more information, or to arrange a consultation, call (416) 448-0903, 2nd Medical Place, Suite 225, 20 Midland Drive, Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 1A1.



Sheldon Medal, D.P.M.
Doctor of Podiatric Medicine

Great news for those who suffer from heel spur pain. A new technique called endoscopic plantar fasciotomy can bring quick relief.

Q: What causes my heel spur pain?

A: Heel spur pain is caused by a stressed, inflamed area in the



Before



After lesion removed

PRESCRIPTION FOR FOOT PAIN RELIEF

bottom of the foot which places tension on the foot spur.

Q: How do you treat heel pain?

A: A local heat spur pain in stages. First I reduce the inflammation of the tendon. Then I use specially incised cuts supports to reduce the tension on the spur. It dissolves gradually. I perform a technique called Endoscopic Plantar Fasciotomy.

Q: What is Endoscopic Plantar Fasciotomy?

A: Heel spur pain is caused by a stressed, inflamed area in the



Diagram depicting heel spur pain

A: Under local anesthesia, a small opening is made on either side of the heel. Using a minimally invasive technique, I make a tiny cut in the tendon which releases it and reduces the pain.

Q: What other types of heel problems do you treat?

A: I treat bunions, hammertoes, corns and calluses using minimal incision techniques. I use the laser to remove skin and warts.

Q: How do you treat bunions?
A: Through a very small opening in the skin, I remove the bump. Then I reshape the crossed bone to eliminate any chance of recurrence.

Q: Why do you recommend this treatment for bunions, heel pain and other foot problems?

A: These procedures are performed painlessly in the comfort of my office. My patients experience much less post-operative discomfort and are able to resume normal activities much quicker.

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transplants a viable option for people concerned about thinning hair or baldness. Using micro and macrographs, which are tiny pieces of skin containing as few as 1-2 living growing hairs, can make hair transplants virtually undetectable even along the frontal hairline.



Close-up photograph of an actual transplant done by Dr. Seager on a previously bald patient using micro-grafts.

Q: Will the transplanted hair look natural?

Dr. Seager: As both a doctor and a hair transplant pioneer, I can honestly say that hair replacement surgery can look amazingly natural in the right candidate. Mini and micro-grafts are dissected from skin from the back and sides of the head and are then transplanted into the thinning or balding areas.

Furthermore, the use of Microscopic Boneless Stereoscopic Dissection allows my staff to get in closer than ever before. This minimizes trauma to each individual graft, thereby reducing the number of viable donor hairs that can be harvested from a given area (25% more donor hairs from the same round donor area with traditional dissection).

Q: How many sessions are required?

Dr. Seager: Traditionally patients usually require 2-4 sessions, approximately 12-20 weeks apart.

Another option is a Megaplex of hair transplantation whereby 7-2,000 grafts (containing up to 6,000 hairs) can be implanted during the same surgery. This will decrease the number of sessions you require in one visit. Minimal incision hair is required and patients frequently return to work the next day.

Dr. Seager: dissection with each patient. Their individual needs and expectations and thoroughly remove the various types of post-operative effects. The Seager Hair Transplant Centre.

For further information or a consultation contact The Seager Hair Transplant Centre located in The Centre at the University Hospital, 2980 Eglinton Ave. E., Scarborough, Ontario M1S 5E5 (416) 287-3733 or 1-800-989-6182.



Dr. Wayne Gorman
M.D., F.R.C.S.C., Plastic Surgeon

Q: I want to improve my skin's appearance. Can laser treatment remove the wrinkles around my mouth and eyes?

Dr. Gorman: Laser skin resurfacing is ideal for smoothing eyelid creases as well as smoothing lip lines. The laser can be used on any area of the face which has developed wrinkling from age and sun exposure.

Q: Is laser resurfacing safe?

Dr. Gorman: The advanced computerized technology of the carbon dioxide laser allows the precise surgical to precisely remove all the layers of damaged skin allowing the normal deeper layers to regenerate smoothly. It is a more conservative approach than

THE FACTS ABOUT LASER SKIN RESURFACING

face lift surgery and is safer than a chemical peel.

Q: How long does the procedure take?

Dr. Gorman: Laser treatment takes up to 90 minutes depending upon the extent of the area being treated. Patients are treated in my private surgical facility under either local or general anesthesia and are able to go home the same day.

Q: How long does it take to heal?

Dr. Gorman: The treated skin is healed in 7 to 10 days. After healing the skin is smooth and fresh looking with a noticeable pink color. My staff instructs patients in makeup techniques to allow a quick return to normal activities. The pink tone gradually fades over the next few months.

Q: How long will the results last?

Dr. Gorman: The beneficial effects of laser treatment are permanent, but depending on a person's skin type the changes due to time

will and sun damage will cause new wrinkles to slowly develop. Laser treatments may be repeated as the years pass to correct these changes as desired.

Q: How do I know that laser resurfacing is the best treatment for me?

Dr. Gorman: As a plastic surgeon when I evaluate any patient for laser resurfacing, I am able to present suggestions which may include a wide range of surgical possibilities. I try to recommend the most conservative methods which will correct the patient's problem while minimizing risk and recurrence.



Before laser treatment, note the deep vertical lines on the upper lip.

Q: Where Gorman is a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada in Plastic Surgery and is an active staff member at Scarborough General Hospital. He is the Director of Cosmetic Surgery Institute, a private surgical facility in midtown Toronto operating in a cosmetic plastic surgery.

For more information, or to arrange a private consultation, call The Cosmetic Surgery Institute at 325 Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario, M4P 1J7 (416) 322-7198.

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SATURDAY NIGHT OLDIES

vol. 32

1. Big Girls Don't Cry
2. Johnny Got Angry
3. A Lovers Question
4. (We Make Me Feel) Love
5. A Natural Woman
6. Knock On Wood
7. Smiled By Me
8. It's The Midnight Hour
9. Moving My Love
10. Let's Get Together
11. (Sittin' On) The Dock Of The Bay
12. Ride Captain Ride
13. Things
14. For What It's Worth
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Books

A long day's journey into life and death

A novel ponders the mysteries of mortality

Many fans of British novelist Graham Swift assume that he was born and raised in the Pennines—that flat region of eastern England, crisscrossed by canals, where the writer set his celebrated 1985 novel, *Waterland*. Later made into a film starring Jeremy Irons, the book evokes a Pennine boyhood so vividly that it appears autobiographical. Not so, says Swift, who was recently in Toronto to promote his masterful new novel, *Last Orders* (Simon & Schuster, 384 pages, \$28.95). The same music truth is that Swift was born in south London, the son, not of a Pennine lordship, but of a civil servant. And he chose the Pennine for *Waterland* not from any great familiarity with the place (he had visited only briefly), but because his story required a water-side setting. For Swift, the miscommunication about his origins only prove that he has done his job as a writer of fiction. "I have freedom both in the imagination," says the 47-year-old author. "If your imagination cannot transport you mentally from where you are to somewhere quite different, then don't be a novelist, be something else."

Last Orders puts Swift's readers into the feathered interior of a Mercedes sedan. The car carries four men—all Londoners—as a 1984 first set of the city towards England's east coast. The group is honoring the last wishes of Jack, a deceased banker, who has asked that his ashes be scattered in the sea at Margate. Three of the party—Larry the gynaecologist, Vic the underwriter and Ray the insurance clerk—are old men, veterans of the Second World War. All are friends of Jack, while their driver, Vince, is Jack's adopted son, and a seller of used luxury cars. As the men converse about Jack or drift into private merriment, they evoke a richly antiquated to-

pestry of love, conflict and buried secrets. Swift says he has no idea where the novel came from; there were no "lightbulbs" of its characters in some passing Mercedes, or in the smoke of a London pub. "They were just suddenly in my life," Swift says. Yet when asked, he also admits to the similarities between *Last Orders* and William



Swift ghosts of the past taking their rightful place in the minds of the living.

Shakespeare. "History is the story of how little people lived through big things."

Swift's great 1990 novel, *As I Lay Dying* (Oxford story, dense, and narrative technique Swift has released. "There is a kind of homage to *As I Lay Dying* in the book," Swift says, though he quickly distances himself from the comparison. "The story about the pressure of the dead on the living, in the wake of death, is as old as Homer."

A stooping, slow spoken man with intense, dark eyes, Swift gives the impression of being fully immersed—sensitive, yet, who might have a passionate interest in sleep collecting (his actual hobby is fly fishing). He still lives in south London, in a house he shares with his long-

time partner, writer Candice Rodd, to whom he has dedicated several of his novels. Growing up in the area during the 1950s—when bombed-out buildings and rebuilding were still a part of daily life—developed a particular awareness of the Second World War. Swift believes that the War's legacy helped inform the deep interest in history that has informed so much of his work. To Swift, history is not an abstract force but, as he puts it, the story "of how little people lived through big things."

His words could stand as a motto for *Last Orders*, which he describes as "an homage" to his personal generation. One of the book's most affecting scenes occurs when the old men pause on their pilgrimage to visit the great naval memorial at Chatham. Staggering up the hill towards the monument, they seem like figures brought might have pointed against, the bleak landscape, somehow indomitable in their frailty.

Swift says he became a writer because of books that thrilled him in early adolescence—boy adventure stories with titles he says he no longer remembers. But he did not apply his full energies to writing until after graduating from Cambridge in 1979. Then, supported by a grant, he spent three years preparing to work as a thesis at the University of York while secretly writing short stories. After leaving York—without a degree—he taught for several years in a continuing education college in London, discarding most of the stories he wrote in his spare time. One of the ways a writer learns, and often learns deeply," Swift says, "is by rejection—self-rejection." It is a process, he adds, "that can be heartbreaking. But I think some good always comes of it."

After throwing out one apprentice novel, Swift finally published *The Sweet Shop Owner* and *Shutout* in the early 1980s. But it was the success of *Waterland*, nominated for the Booker Prize, that allowed him to quit teaching and write full time. That book is still the bestseller of his genre, but *Last Orders* is a fair achievement. He has never before woven history so artfully into the texture of the present—the ghosts of the past taking their rightful, disturbing place in the minds of the living. In *Last Orders*, the little people who lived the big events move a bit and moving circumstances.

JOHN DEMME

A storybook childhood

The retreat from childhood can turn memories into a rivalry between fact and fiction, actual events blurring with stories grown familiar from retelling. But the photos themselves are not always stirred by time. The remarkable thing about A. A. Milne's whimsical tales of Christopher Robin and Winnie-the-Pooh is that they were written about a real boy and his toy bear, whose adventures have been preserved in the folds of East Sussex just outside London's coast. Such tales can still be dropped off one side of the shafed Peabody bridge and, tugged by the tiny current, will emerge on the other. The pines at the top of the Ashdown Forest remain an enchanting refuge, shelter from the winds rising up into the valley. The places are virtually the same as they were in the real 1930s world of Christopher Robin Milne who, though immortalized as a child, grew up to become a soldier, a bookeller and a writer himself—and who died on April 22 at 75.

For people here to cope with their childhood pines and fantasies being turned into an open book, little wonder that Milne spent part of his adult life later at the castle. Against his wishes, his sons were copied into a manuscript in the children by the Walt Disney Co. (It took a campaign by Milne's friends to convince Disney to change Christopher Robin's film accent from American Midwest to English. Parents would never their children to the counter of his bookshop in Dartmouth to say hello to "the real Christopher Robin." Even as a child, he cringed when he heard recordings of Nipper, his father's best-loved poem about a three-year-old boy at bedtime ("Wash, brush, whisper who were, Christopher Robin is saying his prayers"). The inevitable taunts followed Milne through school, onto the cricket pitch, and into the army where he was wounded fighting in Italy. Just as inevitable, he grew to resent the attention with Pooh and the father who looked him to the father Milne and his father were, cringed at Christopher's return from war, missing unconnected at Alan's death in 1958.

"Some people are good with children," Milne wrote in his touching 1974 memoir, *The Enchanted Place*. "You either have it or you don't. My father didn't." The son confessed what the world already knew



Christopher with father A. A. Milne; cited by a nanny who prefabricates comes by his parents

The real Christopher Robin wanted to forget Winnie-the-Pooh

from media reports about the author's family relationships. A son raised mostly by his nanny with perfunctory concern by his mother parents, the father using son as a muse. "Certainly any father was on the lookout for ideas, but so too was I," Christopher wrote in 1964, able then to look back with fairness. "He wanted ideas for his stories, I wanted them for my games, and each looked to the other for inspiration."

Beginning with *When We Were Young* in 1924, Milne's books centred around the adventures of Christopher and his toys. The playmates, Christopher recalled, were "chosen not just for the delight they might give their new owner,

but for their literary possibilities."

The resentment dissipated as he aged. Alan Milne believed he had inherited the Pooh theme by 1927's *Now We Are Six*, hoping to avoid being typecast as a children's author. He failed. "If I wanted to escape from Christopher Robin, as, too, did he," his son wrote sympathetically in 1974. By then, Christopher had found his own refuge in a bookshop owned with his wife, Lesley de Selincourt, and he became a passionate advocate for children's literacy. Already rich but understated in wealth, he turned his apartment above his Pooh royalties over to The Royal Literary Fund after setting enough money aside for their disabled daughter, Clare. "People miss so many good things about Christopher by focusing on how he and his father did not get along," says biographer Murray Friedman. "He was a shy but thoroughly brave man, sensitive to his family and deeply concerned about compensation."

It was conservation that drew Milne back to Sussex on occasion: for the opening of a restored Peabody bridge in 1978, and again in the 1980s to help a successful campaign by the local council to buy Ashdown Forest to save it from private developers. "His involvement to save the forest was remarkable given how he professed not to like the books," says Murray-Friedman. Milne wrote four books about nature, noting in the preface to *The Path Through the Trees* that he had indeed had a happy life. "Everyone latched onto the idea that his life was ruined by Pooh," says A. A. Milne biographer Ann Thwaite. "Christopher had to break away to write his own life. But he never ceased to love his father."

Given the profusion of Pooh paraphernalia and the obsessive infatuation of many Pooh fans, it is perhaps remarkable that Milne emerged as emotionally unscathed as he did. In his memoirs, he tells how people seemed shocked that he no longer possesses the original toys (they are displayed at the New York Public Library). "To my child has this Pooh, but one would think it odd if every man still kept his Pooh to remind him of his childhood," Milne wrote. "My sons were and are to the no more than yours were and are in you. Fate has nothing to do with love. I wouldn't like a glass case to stand 'There is mine.' And I don't need a glass case to remind me: 'Here was love.'"

BRUCE WALLACE is Harfield's senior

THE CONTRADICTION THAT IS TODAY'S CHINA.



LYNN ROBERTSON TAKES A LOOK AT THE WORLD'S MOST POPULOUS COUNTRY. WITH MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN THE MOVIE, CHINA IS STRUGGLING TO COME TO GRIPS WITH MODERNIZING ITS ECONOMY.

"LYNN ROBERTSON IN CHINA"

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Allan Fotheringham



Chaos reigns in Ottawa, Realm of Hubris

Apart T.S. Eliot told us, is the cruelest month. He obviously was thinking about Ottawa, the town that has kept...

Dirty snow still sits roadside in the suburbs. The rain is cold and driving. A huge unimpaired spruce covers all but the tip of the Peace Tower as Parliament Hill is again protected. It is so clearly evidence of a capital that doesn't seem to know where it's going, embedded in what looks like the Marx Brothers' *A Night at the Opera*.

Everywhere a confused visitor looks there is chaos. The government lies and then apologizes—as if that is enough. The military lies and then says it doesn't remember. The RCMP is in disgrace. No one knows what to do about Quebec. No wonder the winter is early.

It is hard to determine which is worse, the government of the land, which is supposed to govern it, or the military, which is supposed to protect it. A scribbler sits in the press gallery looking down at the House of Commons and is embarrassed as a child at the spectacle of the Prime Minister muting sport of his party's crass actions over the GST. He stands, he reads letters from the sides that is the Red Book, he sits down with a well-satisfied look on his face, knowing that he is invulnerable, his party is invulnerable, because opposite him sit the remnants of four parties that will never be government.

The wreckage of the Liberals has not been equalled since the C.D. Howe/Piellage days. It is unbelievable. The interlopers of the Bloc Québécois, who would destroy Canada, have lost even more relevance with the disappearance of the Mousmou, St. Laurent having fled to a new mission from heaven in Quebec City.

The Reformers, still hived into just British Columbia and Alberta, have no chance of becoming a national party with their hostile attitude towards Quebec and the indecision of intellects that think a fact-finding journey to study trading in Singapore is the solution to Canada's life. The NDP and the Conservatives are more to be pitied than described.

It is with such hubris that the Grits, with careless ease, can make a martyr and a hero out of John Munro, one of the most flakable MPs ever to tread the hallowed halls of Ottawa. By honoring him, the Crested have merely ensured his easy re-election as a



riding that does not like being led to.

The groomers are led, naturally, by the yippy deputy prime minister who last summer, plucked, boasted, that she would resign if the latest GST was not scrapped. She doesn't, of course, since it has been "transformed"—a wonderful political word meaning stopped, disguised, camouflaged, brought into the chair, all those things that Munro couldn't do.

Thus life is, perfectly, with the Sorcerer's Apprentice. Whereas serious military types assure us that when they devised an efficient method of removing dangerous to they could be destroyed in 72 hours, it was merely an act of efficiency—nothing to do with hiding them from noisy reporters seeking facts under the access to information law. Yes, right.

And the shiny new chief of defense staff says he can't remember. Oh boy. Into all this, very fitting, arrives Prince Charles, his popularity indicated by the fact that all of 100 obedient Britons and other free-at-work bodies are rounded up to greet him. The country's order for the future king who would be "Tungsten" is such that his largest applause comes in lovely Churchill, Men, and some of that from the palace horses. Does anyone really want him to be King of Canada when Good Queen Bess finally goes? Stand up, all three of you.

It is a sad city here, displaying neither principle nor leadership. The Prime Minister, who sleepwalked into a referendum near-death, has spent the last year forcing to important sounding international conferences, where he can be seen in photographs in the back row behind Slide Willie

and the important people. So terrified is he of Quebec that his Liberals are trying to smother, in a Commons provoked affair, the Reform charge that BQ MP Jean-Marie Marcov sent a letter on the kitchen shelf of the Office of the Leader of the Opposition to Quebec leaders urging soldiers to join a Quebec army of the Yes side was the vote last October.

The only military hero we have left, the retired Lewis Mackenzie, says to any other country that would be regarded as selfish. In Ottawa it is regarded as politics. Why does not the sole Liberal majority get interested in this very interesting letter? Because the Prime Minister is the only prime minister from Quebec in our history who cannot carry Quebec at the polls.

We hardly have to mention the confounding force of Alberta, whom a former prime minister is suing his own taxpayers for the land for an unspeakable sum because the justice minister and the solicitor-general of the country claimed they were too far above the battle to figure out that the RCMP thought a bank account belonging to Brian Mulroney belonged to Brian Mulroney.

The defense minister who doesn't know what is going on doesn't resign. The deputy prime minister who goes back on a promise doesn't resign. In the Realm of Hubris, where the Opposition are malingers, nothing but calm and smug smiles endures.

Little wonder the Peace Tower is smothered in landings.



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HOW THE GAME OF ICE HOCKEY WAS INTRODUCED TO THE COUNTRY OF SOUTH AFRICA.



Calgary International Airport. 3:00 p.m.

The saga begins.

Sixteen kids, sixteen airline tickets and sixteen tiny hearts set on winning their international hockey tournament in Copenhagen.

Little did I know, the stiffest competition would be Murphy's Law.

Copenhagen. 6:00 a.m.

"Our luggage is delayed?" I asked. "It's arriving tomorrow via ... South Africa," the airport clerk explained politely. "Tonight's game isn't in South Africa," I smiled through clenched teeth.

Lars' Sporting Goods. 1:00 p.m.

Needless to say, the shopkeeper was pleasantly surprised to see an entire hockey team being outfitted with brand new equipment. But he was dead calm compared with my little guys who rifled through the new gear like it was birthday's all around. As I watched them I thanked my lucky stars for Visa® Gold card's purchasing power. I never thought I'd have to use it, but then again I never thought I'd need half the added benefits that come with my Visa Gold card. I guess the best defense



against Murphy's Law is never say never. That said, just as I was breathing a sigh of relief, young Jimmy, or Rocket as he prefers, tugged on my coat tails.



Dr. Johan's Office. 2:00 p.m.

It seemed that Rocket's asthma inhaler refill was strategically stowed in his hockey bag which of course, was somewhere over Algiers at this point. I called up the Visa Gold hotline and they gave me a list of English speaking doctors. Rocket got his inhaler re-fueled and we headed for the rink.

Copenhagen Sports Arena. 6:00 p.m.

As the kids took to the ice and I removed the few remaining price tags from their helmets, I celebrated our first victory – we had beaten old Murphy. And the first star of the game, la première étoile, was definitely my Visa Gold card. But then again, I guess that's why they say "it's the only card you need."



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